

HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

2007



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Presidential Address

To the 132nd Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society
Adyar, 26 December 2007

Dear Brethren, I welcome all of you to this 132nd international Convention. The fact that so many members from different countries of the world gather here, shows that they find in the Convention at Adyar something worthwhile and inspiring. There are some who come year after year and this is, in my view, a great encouragement to having the annual Convention at Adyar, the place which the Founders chose, and where many of our most respected leaders spent their life irrespective of the climate and other conditions which may not have been what they were used to. Let us invoke the blessings of our Elder Brethren, who are always at work to encourage people to rise to the heights of human behaviour and living:

May those who are the embodiments of Love immortal bless with their help and guidance this Society, founded to be a channel for their work. May They inspire it with their Wisdom, strengthen it with their Power, and energize it with their Activity.

It is only natural for us to turn our attention this year to the President-Founder, Colonel Henry Steel Olcott, and see in his life an example which is inspiring for us to follow. Many of our Lodges have been honouring his activities, and are no doubt planning to continue with vigour and enthusiasm the work that he began. We are surely aware that one of the leading characteristics of his life was his utter consecration and devotion to the high aims of our Society. Col. Olcott may have made mistakes, but was ever ready to correct them and to do the work of uplifting human consciousness to whatever extent possible. Perhaps we need to remember our

own powers to do the same, until one day humanity will have reached a state of unity.

The work we have to do is to awaken and energize the mind, ours as well as that of others, to the real purpose of our lives. To do this, it is needless to say, we ourselves must become relatively aware of the general condition of humanity. This is not so easy. We often get involved in our day-to-day work in such a way that we give little thought to the basic happenings in the world and the illusions which carry humanity in a direction which is not helpful.

If we look more carefully at the present generation, we see that there is a

dangerous tendency to get lost in the enjoyments of the time, not knowing what else to do. The newspapers, which used to contain more serious matters, are now inclined to submit to pressure from people who are engaged in trivialities, and the world is being led astray by the ability to invent new pleasures. Are we, who claim to be interested in Theosophy, following suit? How many of us have the strength to search for light on the true purposes of human living and help others to do the same? This is an important question. Let us not forget that Col. Olcott and Madame Blavatsky set a new trend to free people from their absorption in superficialities.

Another thing that they tried to bring about was a wider attitude towards life. The minds of members of the Society were again and again drawn to human possibilities for living in a new way, and the mind was guided from purely personal concerns to the larger issues of mankind. If human beings become far less concerned with themselves and much more with humanity as a whole, the world will certainly become different. Conditions are slowly leading towards that: the world is getting closer in many ways. But does that help us to wake up to the totality of life, not only the life of human beings, but of all the inhabitants of this earth? There may be differences of form, of emotional and mental attractions, of interests in general, but the fact is that we have to learn to travel in amity and goodwill towards all to reach an end which is higher and nobler than what we have known.

The first Object of the Theosophical

Society tries to bring about this attitude. We have no doubt different interests and occupations, some of which have little to do with the aims of the evolutionary path. Leaving those alone, we can appreciate the fact that in spite of all our differences and interests, we still remain human, that is, we have something which we all share — our humanness — the qualities essentially belonging to all human beings. So, as we go along trying to reach higher levels, we can still, in spite of our difficulties, feel we are one. There are human beings who do feel this, and we can say that they are united because of it. Others of course have to learn to feel it. The first Object of the Society is thus of world importance to all of humanity.

The point made in the second Object is to turn attention away from just learning to live comfortably, towards what we may call higher values. The Theosophical Society does not say which particular religion is the best, but it does point to religion as a whole as something that can lead to human progress. That is why the study of religion is encouraged, and becomes part of the objects of the Society. The study of religion has to be non-personal and fundamental — religion itself. Thus human beings can rise to higher levels of knowing and understanding. This is a question which arises in the minds of all thinking or aspiring people. Similarly, the words 'philosophy' and 'science' convey a great deal to those who perceive philosophy not as a sectarian set of ideas, but a way of thinking which sees everything as part of a whole. The

true member of the Theosophical Society realizes intuitively that there is a wholeness in all of life, and that there are ways of discovering it. Science aids in this quest, as can be seen more and more through its descriptions, telling us that all the different forms are interdependent. Science at first seemed to be based on separation, but has now come to that point where it sees the unity in the whole process of manifestation.

So Religion, Philosophy and Science together, in a broad sense, not in a formal way, can carry us to our natural destination — that is, towards higher planes of understanding. Today most people are engaged in finding out better ways of physical living, but this is not fundamental. What is important is to make the mind rise from the material to higher levels of perception, and therefore the mind must be used to delve into the nature of non-physical relationship.

When we come to the third Object, of which we know so little, we can still see the importance of it if we can only perceive that the Universe itself works according to certain laws. There are powers latent in us, on turning seriously towards which we will be able to come closer to the heart of Nature. This Object can be practised only by people who try to live according to the other two aims we very briefly referred to. The more we live in accordance with the first two Objects — one being the ability to be in harmony with all, and the other to leave aside the minor preoccupations which life imposes on us and turn to

the major issues, namely Religion, Philosophy and Science — the more we can begin to understand fully the third.

The third Object of the Society is one that can take a person beyond himself, when he reaches a universal level in every way, and is not concerned with small things of interest to the average human being. Up to now we have tried to make our lives fulfilling, and sometimes feel that we have succeeded to a certain extent in achieving our desire, but it does not take us very far, because we continue to cling to the various actions which help to bind us to the pre-human level. When we become capable of reading poetry or solving some of the great riddles posed by life, and so on, we feel we have got somewhere. But universal life needs no fulfilling of itself, and the word fulfilment has no meaning at that level.

So if we really investigate Nature and go beyond what we feel can be known, it will bring out all the powers latent in ourselves and make us rise above our present stature. Knowledge which is unlimited, and universal love, which can surmount all the normal difficulties, have the capacity to see what is actually in front of our eyes but remains hidden because our vision is limited. To put it simply, we come into contact with the Eternal — the most important transformation that will take place — carrying the person from the animalistic ego-consciousness to the universal non-egoistic consciousness. When this freedom is realized, that unit of life knows that uniqueness belongs to life

itself and not to any person in particular.

When a person thinks, 'I am virtuous, generous, etc.', there is no longer any merit in him. Virtue is what it is, because of the wonderful qualities which we know belong to life and not to any person. Therefore the Greeks said that virtue belongs to that whole, to the supreme consciousness, and not to oneself. All the ideas we have are about 'myself', and therefore, from a higher point of view, are false.

There are those exceptional persons who out of deep reflection abandon every trace of attachment to the ego-concept — they are the holy people. Such people are sometimes very simple, not even interested in philosophy, but they have been able to drop the ego. They are holy, because they are free and uniqueness is flowering in them. All the faculties develop in a person who is holy and

'simple', and wisdom shines from him. Such a person takes birth in the world for helping others, and if he does so he makes a great difference to the people whom he speaks to and contacts. There is only pure action: this is a kind of mystic statement which we have to reflect on, and the meaning has to be discovered for ourselves. Pure action is one in which there is no reaction to anything.

So any point in human life where there is the strong and clear realization that the whole side of the ego which makes a person think he is virtuous, intelligent, etc., is not real, is of value. Virtue is really that movement from within, just like the sun when it rises and casts its light upon the world and brings out the shape and colours of everything that is lovely and true. It is love, and lights up the beauty, truth, harmony, and everything glorious in others. Love is real action.

* * *

Not all countries have sent statistical information, but statistics from 43 of the 49 countries where there are Theosophical Lodges and Study Centres had been received when this report went to the press, totalling 28,142 members.

India continues to have the largest membership even though that membership has now fallen to 12,444. This is probably the result of more careful scrutiny of the figures and not an alarming situation.

The 116th Indian Section Convention was held on 27 December 2006 at Adyar. Prof. P. Krishna inaugurated it and Miss

Mary Anderson presided. Two days later, a symposium on 'How Theosophy Leads to Perfection' was held. The Section had a number of meetings during the year at its headquarters with some eminent people participating, some of whom dealt with the work of Col. Olcott. In this way, a few people who had not known the Society became acquainted with its activities.

The well-attended North Indian study camp was held at the Section headquarters with HPB's *The Key to Theosophy* as the main text. The camp had 106 participants from thirteen Federations, who studied with Mrs Radha Burnier.

There were other study camps at which the former General Secretary, Mr P. K. Jayaswal, Dr A. Kannan, Prof. R. C. Tampi and others presided.

The South Indian Conference, under the leadership of Prof. C. A. Shinde, was centred around the work of Col. Olcott. The General Secretary visited a number of places and was the chief guest at the Federation Conferences in Bengal and Madhya Pradesh. The Theosophical Order of Service, under the new National Director for India, Mr B. L. Bhattacharyya, has supervised the good work done in many places.

The financial year that ended in March 2007 showed a surplus which helped to cover losses in previous years. Investments increased by Rs. 8 lakhs. The General Secretary made an appeal for donations from members so as to be able to repair the buildings and do other important work at the Section headquarters.

Among those who passed away were some well known in the Section, particularly Mr S. Krishnamurthy from the Karnataka Federation, and Mr G. Parmanand of Blavatsky Lodge, Mumbai, who had been a member for 56 years. The General Secretary has made a list of tasks ahead, and expects help and cooperation from members to fulfil these tasks.

The report of Mr S. M. Jayatilleke, Presidential Representative in Sri Lanka, mentions the number of members as 160, but since the area does not have the minimum requirement of Lodges, it has

not been certified as a Section. A quarterly newsletter named *The Theosophist* is being distributed to members. Apart from this, various books have been printed in Sinhala, including *At the Feet of the Master* and *The Buddhist Catechism*. The centenary of Col. Olcott's death has particular relevance to this region, since Olcott spent so much energy and time to give it a new impetus. A number of functions were organized in leading Buddhist schools, and other events took place to create awareness.

In Pakistan, we had the misfortune of losing our much-valued Presidential Representative, Mr Dara Mirza. The situation is very difficult there, except for the work done by the TOS. When it is clearer what needs to be done, we will, of course, take appropriate action.

Communication with Bangladesh, says Dr C. V. Agarwal, Presidential Representative, has become less dependable. Mr B. L. Bhattacharyya visited all the 5 Lodges and the Study Centre, and gave talks both for the public and for members. Several meetings were held in Dhaka. Comilla Lodge, founded in 1889, has paid dues up to 2010 and has 42 members. The large Lodge building, which is more than one hundred years old, is being renovated, and the library is kept open once a week.

Efforts are being made to step up activities in Chittagong, Kusum, and Besant Lodges, which have faced various natural disasters. Members in the area subscribe to 37 copies of *The Theosophist*. The Lodges which were in Seremban and Penang in neighbour-

ing Malaysia have sent no report, and probably have no activities, but some members from there attended the School of the Wisdom in Adyar.

The Australian General Secretary reports on a number of activities, including the certification of two new groups. A few members are constantly assisting the General Secretary in her work, which cannot be enlarged upon in a short summary. In August 2007 there were 1,328 members, an increase of 41 over the previous year. The Section spends at least three times the amount that all the members pay, and all new members receive a copy of the Section's guidelines, which contain a brief account of the nature of Theosophical work, and the responsibility of each member in connection with it.

The General Secretary visited many of the centres of work in the Section. Complimentary copies of Olcott's work were sent to the members, while two of his books, *The Buddhist Catechism* and *Reminiscences*, were featured at the annual Convention in January and on other occasions. Selected books were sold to the members at subsidized prices. Philip Harris, who was mainly responsible for bringing out the *Theosophical Encyclopaedia* and other valuable publications, passed away during the year. The Lodges are being constantly stimulated in one way or another, particularly by Mrs Dara Tatray, Mr Pedro Oliveira, and Mr Brian Parry.

In New Zealand the School of Theosophy was held for ten days at the Tauhara

Centre, with Dr Ravi Ravindra exploring the Aphorisms of Patañjali. Several Branches have started or continued to teach yoga and meditation. Much effort has gone into seeing that Branches become more independent, but the General Secretary says that there is little opportunity through the studies in the Lodges to gain a depth of understanding in Theosophy. The format of *Theosophy in New Zealand* has been changed, and the General Secretary thinks that the new format helps to convey the message of Theosophy to the public. Membership this year has decreased by eleven, however, and gone down to 982. Among those who passed away during the year were Mrs Rose Pollard and Mr Gavin Laurie.

The American Section has much support from the Kern Foundation and the Sellon Charitable Trust, and feels greatly indebted to the founders, Mr Herbert Kern and Mr John Sellon, who gave much care to the Section's investments and activities.

The 121st National Gathering coincided with Olcott's death centenary and an international TOS Conference, making this occasion a special one. The theme, 'Foundations of Theosophy: Study, Service, and Sangha', reflected Olcott's vision for the Society's contribution to the world. The Department of Education continues to develop its services and we are told that e-learning is growing in popularity. Many new books, articles, etc., have been made available. Similarly, the sales performance has increased. Membership has gone up to 4,072 because of increased activities in the centre and various regions. Three

groups have been certified officially as Study Centres, the total strength consisting of 47 Branches and 64 official Study Centres. Theosophical groups studied various courses by Dr John Algeo and others. The Library and Archives expanded their outreach in various ways, and the list of publications translated into other languages is quite impressive.

The English General Secretary, Mr Colin Price, reports that England has 37 Lodges, of which the largest and most active are in Bristol and Camberley. Two Branches, including Blavatsky Lodge, functioned from Headquarters. Many of them have focused on Eric McGough's study courses, and he has travelled around the country in order to help them. Lodges and Centres are clustered in three Federations, each having its own special quality and characteristic. The bulk of the public events held at Headquarters was arranged by the Foundation for Theosophical Studies, the Section's educational charity. Sometimes about seventy per cent of the members in a locality attended the programmes organized by this body. The Foundation held meetings in some places in addition to the summer school in Leicester. Mr McGough was appointed to be in charge of the scheme for national lecturers. The three national officers and the Executive Committee have worked unstintingly, we are told, and the growth in membership was maintained, bringing the total to 998 at the end of September.

In Wales, Cardiff Lodge has seen an increase in activities, with better attendance at lectures. Talks and workshops have

been given on a wide range of subjects. In Bangor, Conwy, and Swansea the new Lodges cannot afford many experienced speakers, but the English Section has been helping them. All the members in the new Lodges study Eric McGough's courses on Theosophy. An increasing number of new Welsh members attend the English summer school and find it inspiring and productive.

Miss Mary Anderson was the guest speaker at the second All-Ireland Convention held in Dublin and her talk produced much interest. Belfast Lodge had regular weekly meetings, including a special display of pictures about the President-Founder and a talk by the Organizing Secretary, Mrs Marie Harkness, emphasizing his vast and unstinting service to Theosophy and Buddhism. We are told that many members appreciate the bimonthly Study Notes and accompanying letter by Mrs Harkness. The study groups in Coleraine and Dublin are meeting regularly and flourishing, and a new study group is beginning in Newry.

The European Federation held its triennial conference in Finland in the outskirts of Helsinki from 14 to 18 July, along with the celebration of the centenary of the Finnish Section. The theme was 'Compassion — Basis for Peace and Understanding'. The guests of honour were the Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche and the President of the TS, Mrs Radha Burnier. The number of participants was encouragingly high, with 250 attending the Conference and another 130 non-Finns

also participating. Col. Olcott's memory was cherished by many Lodges which celebrated his death centenary, and as in other countries, one issue of *Teosofi*, the Section's magazine, was dedicated to HSO. The Chairman of the Federation and workers of the Lodges met this year in September to discuss 'Challenges of the Century — From Ideas to Actions'. The Finnish Section has, as we know, close contact with two Lodges in Estonia, which are also active, arranging public lectures in a few places in the country. A jubilee book entitled *TS in Finland — 100 Years*, as also other publications, were brought out. The membership is 458.

In Sweden, work goes on and open discussion of the fundamentals of the Esoteric Philosophy takes place in Stockholm, where public lectures are also featured. Study went on during the year, but a Convention was not held, as members were encouraged to go to Finland, says Pertti Spets, the General Secretary.

In Iceland, at the headquarters, several meetings take place every week, with an attendance of 40-60 people. Tea or coffee is served to those who come, which encourages them in this cold country. Although most of the lecturers are members of the TS, they also invite others — scholars, writers, artists, etc. — all making some contribution to Theosophical thinking. Meditations are held regularly from October to May. Various books were published by the Section and made available and the book service has selections for sale. The General Secretary attended the Congress and

Convention in Finland. There are seven Lodges in Reykjavik, the capital, and two outside.

In Norway we have two new members, one in Oslo and another in Bergen, which does not seem like a lot, but is in fact a cause for satisfaction, as the Section had collapsed to just a few members. The library has been stored in a safe place, and they hope that fairly soon it will be open to members. Mrs Agnes Gaasemyr, Organizing Secretary, is writing monthly to members.

As mentioned in previous years, the biggest Section in Europe is the Italian, with a membership of 1,103. One of the many ways in which it has been active is by making available online a list of library books. A website of the Section, totally devoted to its own publications, has been created so that one can order books directly. The circulation of their magazine totals 1,300 copies, of which more than eleven hundred go to members. Italian collaboration with the European Federation at Pescia brought about 60 members together in a seminar, while at a meeting near Venice there were about 90 participants. We are informed that a lecture by Prof. P. Krishna at Perugia University, in collaboration with the Chair of Pedagogy, aroused great interest. The Italian Section has been interested for some time in helping the Eastern countries, the Olcott School at Adyar, educational activities in Pakistan, etc.

Among the books studied by the Spanish Lodges were *The Secret Doctrine*, *Self-Realization* by I. K. Taimni, the

three Theosophical classics, and other works. The Iberian Gathering took place near Madrid, with 75 people taking part, including 14 Portuguese members. Another gathering was the summer school of the Section, with the theme 'Unity in Diversity', which attracted about 135 people. H. S. Olcott's death centenary was honoured in a variety of ways — by the journal *Sophia* presenting a monograph on his life, by various books published on their website, by lectures during the summer school, etc.

We are told that in Portugal Lodges are working with enthusiasm and commitment, and studying various Theosophical books. The year saw the passing of one of the early members of the Society in this country: Mrs Maria Beatriz Serpa Branco, who attended all of J. Krishnamurti's talks in Europe and devoted her life to Theosophy. All the Theosophical festivities were celebrated, but special emphasis was given to the work of H. S. Olcott.

The French-speaking Branches are active except for Brazzaville in Africa, which was dissolved because of lack of members. The theme of the Convention was a homage to Olcott, and the subject was 'Devotion and Perseverance on the Spiritual Path'. *Le Lotus Bleu* appeared regularly and has been sent to Belgium, Switzerland, Togo, and the Ivory Coast.

In Slovenia, where they have four Lodges and 71 members, they are expecting some additions of people who are seriously interested in the work. All the Lodges had regular weekly meetings and

were happy to welcome the Chairman of the European Federation, Miss Kim-Dieu. Their winter school at Soncek was wholly dedicated to Olcott and a special meeting was held in Celje. The international Secretary, Miss Mary Anderson, gave inspiring public lectures and visited Croatia accompanied by some members. A commemorative issue of their magazine, *Theosophical Thought*, came out in an improved form. The visit of Mrs Radha Burnier in July was welcomed.

We are told by the Presidential Representative in Hungary, Mr Thomas Martinovich, that the two Lodges have been active, and a public lecture was arranged every month with 25-50 participants. Some 'open meetings' were held monthly to meet new interested people who have questions to ask. Mr Szabari helped with the publications, which included Powell's *The Astral Body* and a booklet about the hundred-year old TS in Hungary. The international President visited them and they had a public meeting in Budapest and again in Debrecen. The President answered questions put to her during her stay. The TS in Hungary publishes a periodical which helps to disseminate Theosophy.

Lodge programmes continued in Austria, and they tried to deal with 'burning' questions within the framework of Theosophy. The Swiss group is led by the Presidential Agent, Mrs Eliane Gaillard, assisted by Pierre Berner, Raynald Fovini, and eighteen other members. This is a great success according to Miss Gaillard. As in other years, Miss Kim-Dieu

conducted a seminar in Geneva and Miss Heidi Burch continues the meetings in the German-speaking areas. Two-thousand francs are given every year to the European Federation for the benefit of people in Eastern Europe. Four new members have been welcomed into the national organization this year, which has given a fillip to the work.

The number of members in Belgium is 97, three more than last year. There are three Lodges in Brussels and five in provincial towns. The Section lost Mrs Ariane Hespel, President of the Lodge in Charleroi. Other Lodges are continuing as well as possible. They are trying to sell the house in Brussels, but cannot do so because of an old tenant, who has opposed every move to renovate the building. They hope to obtain a building licence, and to construct a new place elsewhere, which will hopefully begin next autumn.

In the Netherlands they deeply regret the passing of Johan van der Poll and also of Mr Paul Zwollo, who was a member of the General Council and active in the international field. They are also sorry that their membership has been decreasing. In addition, they have a financial shortcoming. To remedy this, they have appealed to members for donations. At the same time, their Library has an increased membership and people coming for research are growing in numbers, as the Librarian has good contacts with universities and high schools. The Bookshop has been taken over by O & O, a group linked to the Adyar TS.

The East and Central African Section

had as the highlight of the year a guest speaker from India, Mr H. K. Sharan, who toured and made an impact on all the regions of the Section. Bro. Navin B. Shah, who succeeded as General Secretary, has to deal with the decreasing membership of the Section, with only 230 members in four countries, which is a big drop from what used to exist when many Indians who are now abroad were members in East Africa. The Section bookstall, housed in Nairobi, has a rich collection of titles, including books in Gujarati and the Section magazine. The members in Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia have to send their dues directly to Adyar. They are looking at ways of renewing inactive Lodges and generally revamping the Section. Three centenaries — commemorating Olcott, the international TOS, and Nairobi Lodge — are being observed.

The West African Section has study centres in four countries, namely Ghana, Cameroon, Nigeria, and Liberia. The membership has dropped from 251 in 2006 to 240 in 2007. Among those who died during the year were Mr R. K. Ahedor, President of the Lodge in Denu, Ghana; and Mr Godfrey Olubi, Regional Secretary in Nigeria and President of Lagos Lodge. We are told that an average of ten enquirers per week in the headquarters office in Accra, Ghana, is normal. The Section arranges every possible programme to attract people to Theosophical ideals.

The General Secretary of the South African Section, Mrs Susan Kaschula,

has visited and lectured at all the Lodges and is in regular contact with all of them. They are trying to prevent Durban Lodge from closing down. It seems as if this effort will pay off and that there is a growing interest in Theosophy. The situation of Pretoria Lodge has improved as the surrounding building development has been completed. They plan to have the biennial Convention in Cape Town and attract people there. It was a joy to the members to find that eighteen people had joined the new Centre in Germiston. It is more difficult to visit the other two centres because of the distance.

The TS in Colombia has only the minimum number of Lodges to be called a Section. It is active in Bogotá, but its existence is precarious elsewhere. A number of courses and public lectures are being held and young Theosophists' and children's activities are being encouraged. The *Selección Teosófica* is received by about 80 persons. Dr Isaac Jauli has been lecturing there and in other places in South and Central America. There are two Lodges in Venezuela as well as a study group on the island of Margarita. A basic course in Theosophy goes on in Blavatsky Lodge, and although they are a small group, they are carrying on. In Peru, some changes have been made with the hope that the membership will increase. Dr Jauli also visited them and tried to help to improve the situation. They are photocopying articles and sending them to their 25 members. The TOS has been active in carrying out charities.

In Bolivia they have had three national gatherings with different subjects and a certain number of joint meetings. Their studies and programmes have continued as usual. In Chile they report an increase in the number of new members, most of them young. The Branches are said to be very active and articles taken from Theosophical journals are brought out in Spanish. In Uruguay *The Secret Doctrine* and various works by I. K. Taimni and Krishnamurti have been studied during the year. Col. Olcott's death centenary was commemorated. The Section received the visit of Mr Isaac Jauli.

In Argentina, young people are given an opportunity to contact Theosophy and practise yoga, meditation, etc. In May, Prof. P. Krishna gave public lectures attended by up to 300 mostly young people. In the San Rafael Centre, he gave talks on 'Education, Science, and Spirituality' with about 90 persons participating. In the same Centre, a training workshop took place. Two books were published especially to honour Olcott's memory, and the national magazine dedicated three issues to his work and speeches. There are fifteen Lodges and a publishing house whose works are widely distributed.

The General Secretary of the Brazilian Section reports a small increase of membership as well as an increase in the work of dissemination, which spreads Theosophy through 62 television channels to 49 cities. The 25th summer school of the Brazilian Section was held in Salvador, Bahia, and focused on the

Portuguese version of articles by the international President, published under a single title, *Learning to Live Theosophy*. Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr, gave lectures which were published in Portuguese. The Brazilian TPH is publishing a translation of Col. Olcott's *The Buddhist Catechism*. The membership stands at 807, and is the biggest in South America.

In Central America, Costa Rica had varied activities and a new Centre was started outside the capital, situated beautifully in the middle of a forest and next to a stream. They had lecturers from other countries who included Mr Jauli and also Mrs Maria Parisen and Mrs Nelda Samarel from Krotona. The writings of well-known Theosophists were studied.

In Cuba the theme of the annual Convention was 'The Occult Hierarchy, HSO, and the TS'. Olcott's inaugural address and excerpts of his last article to Theosophists were made available to all attendees. The Section's main library has been reorganized, and the hours changed to suit the public. There are programmes every Sunday and non-members are welcomed.

The Mexican Section had four Theosophical meetings with speakers from other Sections, namely Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr, from the Philippines, Mrs Ali Ritsema from Holland, Mrs Nelda Samarel from the US, and Mrs Isis Resende from Brazil. Some members participated in the first Central American Convention which took place in San Salvador. The TS in Puerto Rico consists of three Lodges and two study groups,

all of which were well-attended and 24 new members joined. A new study group was formed in Río Piedras. They also created a web page. The Presidential Representative in the Dominican Republic, along with Mrs L. Howell and Maria Orlich from Costa Rica, conducted a study programme in a mountain location. The enthusiasm was great and it was decided to have similar workshops again. One of the Lodges showed a series of scientific and spiritual films, which attracted much attention. The Presidential Representative generally created vitality and enthusiasm.

In Indonesia several books have been translated by Mrs L. Michelle, who also prepared a website for the Section. Their Convention was held at Sala Lodge in Surakarta, the subject being 'Study, Meditation, Service'. The new Lodges were each supplied with fifteen titles in Indonesian. On White Lotus Day, pamphlets were distributed along with a manual of computer slides. The Philippines Section hosted the Indo-Pacific Conference early in November, with about 160 delegates attending. The theme was 'Live to Benefit Humanity'. After more than fifteen years of preparation, *The Theosophical Encyclopedia* was finally published by the Publishing House in Manila. Two new study groups have been formed and the TOS is active.

Singapore Lodge continues to focus on courses in Theosophy; not all the participants remain as members, but they get a feel of Theosophy. Two meditation courses were conducted

and informal meetings were held to answer the questions of students. Mr Matius Ali, from the Indonesian Section, visited the Lodge and gave a talk.

Lotus Lodge in Zagreb, the capital of Croatia, is made up of members from different places, some of whom travel a long distance in order to reach Zagreb, and therefore meetings are not held often. The Lodge was constituted in Krizevci in October 2007. The largest study group numbers seven and meets in Zagreb. Miss Kim-Dieu and Miss Mary Anderson, accompanied by Mr Dusan and Mrs Breda Zagar, were among the visitors to the Lodge. Other groups meet and study Theosophy. Mr Milan Loncar is making great efforts to translate Theosophical literature and has so far succeeded in publishing Mr S. S. Varma's booklet on *Yama and Niyama* as given in the Yoga Sutra-s. Some of the members participated in the summer school in Slovenia, near Koper.

The Lodge in the Ivory Coast consists mostly of young people who have concentrated on studying *The Key to Theosophy*. Their discussions usually turn on the internal state of peace which makes it possible to be peaceful externally. We have received reports also from Ankh Lodge in the Ukraine and Nippon Lodge in Japan, which are important, as they help to bring Theosophy to countries where otherwise we would have no contacts.

The Indo-Pacific Federation mentions Col. Olcott's activities, which have been publicized throughout the countries in the area. New information leaflets, and so

forth, have been issued. The Pan-African Federation continues to be involved in the activities of the countries in the African continent. The Inter-American Federation held the first Central American Convention in San Salvador, where Mrs Ali Ritsema was the guest speaker. The Federation organized the visit of several people to various places in the Federation, particularly that of Mr Isaac Jauli, who was able to travel to many places to create interest. The President of the Federation has encouraged and organized many of the programmes. The European Federation dedicated the whole year to the memory of our President-Founder, and it was very happy to have both the international President and Ven. Prof. Samdhong Rinpoche as guests of honour at its Congress in Helsinki.

Activities in Adyar are going on well. The Olcott Education Society carries on its work with a good deal of success. The Olcott Memorial High School has about 640 students. The children are engaged in extra-curricular activities like gardening, crafts, and gymnastics, in addition to the educational activities, which are going on well. The HPB Hostel is a kind of additional unit of the School, and has a total of 24 boys. The Social Welfare Centre reopened in June 2007 with about 100 children. They learned alphabets, numbers, songs, and so on. It tries to prepare them for higher education partly by hygienic habits which the mothers have to learn. The Animal Welfare Department treated about 11,000 animals, and did a few animal birth control

operations and other major operations.

The Adyar Library and Research Centre is happy to welcome Prof. C. A. Shinde as Librarian to replace Mrs Gopalaratnam, her age no longer permitting her to serve as Librarian. This year the Library brought out a special journal, the *Colonel Henry Steel Olcott Death Centenary Commemoration* volume. Mr R. Lakshmanan was a dedicated staff member who passed away after 46 years of service. All the work of the Library — the acquisition and cataloguing, preservation, etc. — is going on satisfactorily.

After many decades, an Indian reprint of the classic *Isis Unveiled* was brought out in two volumes by the Theosophical Publishing House. The book is being received well. A revised edition of *Reminiscences of Colonel H. S. Olcott* by various writers was also published during the year to commemorate the centenary of Col. Olcott's passing. Many of the reprints were brought out with attractive new covers or jackets. Future plans include publishing a book of 'On the Watch-Tower' articles by Mrs Radha Burnier appearing in *The Theosophist* from 1980 to 2006, with the title *The World around Us*.

The Archives and Museum received many requests, and the card system makes it possible to have quick access. This year's Archives Exhibition, as you know, explores Annie Besant's life. A lot of work has to be done in the department, but at present we do not have the staff to do it.

The year 2007 is a special one for our Besant Scout Centre also, for the scouting movement completed 100 years of its existence. About 20 scout groups and 2,300 children used the place for their camping activities, remembering Dr Annie Besant's role in creating the movement in India.

The Theosophical Order of Service did a lot of work during the tsunami and its aftermath, and that work continues. The highlight of TOS activities this year was an international conference held at Wheaton, Illinois, and it mainly tried to develop an international perspective. Progress was made to expand the team of volunteers to support grass-root workers. The work of Mrs Jean Gallo, who has retired after serving as President of the TOS in the USA for more than forty years, is acknowledged with gratitude.

I was not able to travel much, but visited a few places in Europe in July. First, I was able to visit Slovenia, where I gave a series of talks in the morning, and my companion, Mr G. Gautama, gave afternoon talks on the subject of education. From there I went to Hungary, where they were celebrating the centenary of the Section with the few people they have. This included all the members in Budapest and those in Debrecen. My main object in going to Europe was to attend the triennial Congress of the European Federation, held in Helsinki along with the centenary of the Finnish Section. From there, I went to our international centre in Naarden and then to England before returning to Adyar.

Some of the international Vice-President's varied activities included speaking at the summer schools of the American and German Sections and, on 17 February, at the Olcott death centennial anniversary in New York City. Dr John Algeo also gave the keynote address at a regional conference on social service, and speaks frequently in Atlanta and the American national headquarters in Wheaton, Illinois. His numerous articles are published widely in Theosophical magazines internationally. Miss Mary Anderson, the international Secretary, travelled to many places, including England, Switzerland, Germany, Austria, Israel, Holland, Slovenia, Croatia, and Ireland, where she either had discussions with members or gave lectures and seminars to members as well as public lectures. All this helped to keep up the momentum in Europe. In India she travelled to Juhu (near Mumbai) and Bhavnagar, where she gave lectures at the Gujarat Federation Convention. She also lectured for the Madras Federation.

The School of the Wisdom held two sessions this year as usual. The first was on 'New Insights into the Yoga Sutra-s' with Dr Ravi Ravindra in January and February. The second comprised three two-week sessions in November and December on 'Fundamental Theosophical

Principles' with the Secretary of the School, Mrs Dolores Gago, 'Basic Theosophy and the Future of Man' with Prof. C. A. Shinde, and 'Ancient Wisdom and Modern Insight' with Prof. R. C. Tampi.

We have an insufficient number of workers at Adyar. However, during the year, Mr M. Dharmalingam, who is an experienced engineer, joined the small staff in the Maintenance Department and has done a great deal of work to improve buildings and other facilities. Recently, Mr Shailendra Agrawal has kindly undertaken the work of supervising the Garden Department. The spruceness of the whole estate is largely due to the interest he has taken. Mr J. Suresh, who was the Garden Superintendent, has been transferred to the Security Department.

I might say on this occasion that all is well at Adyar and with the Society as a whole. It would be nice, though, to have a greater presence in many centres where we have a small membership. But in spite of the small numbers, they are noticeably successful in keeping the ideals of the Society before the public. I take this opportunity to convey my best wishes to the members here and to those who could not attend the Convention.

I declare this 132nd Convention open.

RADHA BURNIER

THE TREASURER'S REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

TREASURER'S REPORT 2006 - 2007

The salient features of the Income and Expenditure Account of the Society for the year ended 31st March 2007 are as under:

1. Income:

The Income for the year was Rs. 10,427,788/-. The details are as follows:

	Year ended 31.03.2006 Rs.	Year ended 31.03.2007 Rs.
Interest Received	14,672,380	13,127,294
Interest Accrued and not Due	2,352,609	1,495,910
Fees and Dues	1,880,010	2,386,770
Surplus from		
Bhojansala and Leadbeater Chambers	-	30,859
Theosophical Publishing House	1,001,813	1,179,963
<i>The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter</i>	38,981	- 44,547
Vasanta Press	7,193	-177,666
General Donations	107,752	206,044
License Fees	132,000	132,000
Miscellaneous Receipts	<u>206,806</u>	<u>82,605</u>
	20,399,544	18,419,232
Less: Interest transferred to earmarked funds	7,066,770	6,383,416
Interest accrued & not due of previous year	<u>-</u>	<u>1,608,028</u>
	<u>13,332,774</u>	<u>10,427,788</u>

The net interest income received for the year was Rs.5,671,998/-, after deducting the previous year's accrued interest of Rs.1,608,028/- and transferring a sum of Rs.5,847,268/- to earmarked funds. The gross interest for the year ended 31.03.07 is lower by Rs.1,545,086/- as compared to the previous year because of low interest rates during most of the year as well as interest recovery of Rs.762,781/- on account of foreclosure and renewal of Fixed Deposits to take advantage of higher interest rates in the last quarter of the year. Interest accrued and not due (Gross) amounts to Rs.1,495,910/- as of 31.3.2007, compared to Rs.2,352,609/- of previous year. The Fees and Dues received during the year amounted to Rs.2,386,770/-, as against Rs.1,880,010/- in the previous year. This year Bhojansala and Leadbeater Chambers show a surplus of Rs.30,859/-. The Theosophical Publishing House continues to do well with a surplus of Rs.1,179,963/- in the current year as against Rs.1,001,813/- in the previous year. *The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter* show a deficit of Rs.44,547/- as of 31.3.2007, compared to a surplus of Rs.38,981/- in the previous year, mainly because of a decline in subscription and interest income. General Donations received during the year amounted to Rs.206,044/-, as against Rs.107,752/- in the previous year.

2. Expenditure:

The net expenditure of the Society for the year is Rs.17,081,383/- against Rs.16,551,691/- in the previous year. The break-up is as follows:

	Year ended 31.03.2006	Year ended 31.03.2007
	Rs.	Rs.
Departments	4,858,364	5,604,086
Charitable work	5,340,461	4,147,839
Propagation of Theosophy	1,667,808	1,887,153
International Offices	609,021	684,274
Establishment	2,484,397	2,916,791
Other Expenses	<u>1,591,640</u>	<u>1,841,240</u>
	<u>16,551,691</u>	<u>17,081,383</u>

(a) Departments

The net expenditure of the Departments for the year is Rs.5,573,227/-, compared to Rs.4,858,364/- in the previous year, an increase of Rs.714,863/-. The broad details are as follows:-

Departments	Year ended 31.03.2006	Year ended 31.03.2007
	Rs.	Rs.
Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers	201,061	-30,859
Garden	855,764	941,784
Maintenance	<u>3,801,539</u>	<u>4,662,302</u>
	<u>4,858,364</u>	<u>5,573,227</u>

Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers show a surplus of Rs.30,859/- in the current year, as compared to a deficit of Rs.201,061/- in the previous year, due to better occupancy of rooms. Boarding shows a deficit of Rs.200,739/-, an increase of Rs.21,873/- over the previous year and lodging shows a surplus of Rs.2,31,598/- as against the deficit of Rs.22,195/- in the previous year. The deficit in the Garden Dept. is Rs.941,784/- in the current year, compared to Rs.855,764/- in the previous year, mainly because of a fall in garden produce income and increase in general maintenance expenses of the Garden.

In respect of the Maintenance Department, the net expenditure has increased to Rs.4,662,302/- in the current year compared to Rs.3,801,539/- in the previous year. The following were the major expenses:-

	Year ended 31.03.2006	Year ended 31.03.2007
	Rs.	Rs.
Electricity Charges	1,818,266	1,846,422
Water Supply Installations Maintenance	209,811	272,231
Telephones	38,464	32,880
Electrical Installation Maintenance	209,627	252,527
Boundaries	217,676	9,036
Repairs and Maintenance of Buildings	1,581,894	2,448,379
Other Maintenance costs including Depreciation	465,672	532,847
Office Salaries and Other Expenses	791,981	753,158
	5,333,391	6,147,480
Less: Recoveries	1,531,852	1,485,178
Net Deficit	3,801,539	4,662,302

As usual, the repairs and maintenance of buildings and the electricity cost constitute a significant part of the overall expenses of the Maintenance Department, besides other expenses such as maintenance of water supply, electrical installations, and office costs. Many buildings are old and will need renovation in the next few years and therefore a significant increase is anticipated on this account in the coming year.

(b) Charitable Work

The amount spent on Charitable Work for the year was Rs.4,147,839/-, as against Rs.5,340,461/- in the previous year. The difference is mainly due to a substantial amount spent on Tsunami Relief work in the previous year. Other charitable expenses include the amounts spent on education, animal welfare, the hostel, social welfare and medical aid.

(c) Propagation of Theosophy

The expenditure on Propagation of Theosophy for the year was as follows:

		Year ended 31.03.2006	Year ended 31.03.2007
		Rs.	Rs.
Adyar Library and Research Centre	(Net)	682,652	861,139
Archives and Museum	"	126,716	105,197
School of the Wisdom	(Gross)	56,642	112,726
Book Gifts	"	262,778	253,339
Convention and Seminars	"	519,471	514,419
Others		19,549	40,333
		1,667,808	1,887,153

TREASURER'S REPORT

In the case of the Adyar Library the net deficit is Rs.861,139/- in the current year, as against Rs.682,652/- in the previous year, mainly on account of an increase in the cost of publication and reduction in income. The expenditure of the School of the Wisdom is doubled, because in the previous year the second half of the programme was not held. An amount of Rs.253,339/- was utilized for Book Gifts as compared to Rs.262,778/- in the previous year.

(d) Other Costs

The total cost of Establishment and International Offices was Rs.3,601,065/-, as against Rs.3,093,418/- in the previous year, mainly because of an increase in security expenses.

3. Net Deficit:

The actual deficit is Rs.290,181/- for the current year, after taking into account interest accrued but not due amounting to Rs.648,266/- as compared to an actual surplus of Rs.319,089/- in the previous year.

4. Capital Expenditure:

The total amount spent on Capital Account was Rs.915,700/- and relates to generator, photocopying machine, computers & accessories, furniture, machineries, etc.

5. Overall Position:

The overall financial position of the Society continues to be satisfactory. During the year the Adyar Besant Commemorative Fund, which is the Society's main Endowment Fund, rose from Rs.55,950,770/- to Rs.57,269,408/- and other Funds from Rs.101,719,707/- to Rs.104,201,750/-. During the year we had started accepting Legacy Deposits from members, which show a balance of Rs.1,118,000/- as on 31.3.2007.

6. Acknowledgement:

On behalf of the Society, I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for the continued support of members throughout the world.

CHENNAI
29 Sep 2007

K.S.DASTUR
Honorary Treasurer

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED

From 1st April 2006 to 31st March 2007 (in Rupees)

	Name of Section etc.	2005-2006	2006-2007
The Theosophical Society in:	Africa, East and Central	---	---
	Africa, South	6600	7019
	Africa, West	---	---
	America, Central	1770	---
	Argentina	156185	52680
	Asia, South-East	16992	12657
	Australia	118205	126821
	Austria	4754	5931
	Belgium	54780	23374
	Bolivia	14517	22745
	Brazil	72947	86105
	Canada	23287	27343
	Chile	30800	18268
	Colombia	---	---
	Costa Rica	31715	2620
	Cuba	---	---
	Denmark	---	---
	Dominic Republic	12125	---
	England	---	408669
	Ecuador	2655	---
	Finland	74307	88510
	France	55038	138211
	Germany	37059	41674
	Greece	---	---
	Hungary	---	20539
	Iceland	24426	20840
	India	49124	69990
	Indonesia	10949	2823
	Ireland	---	13474
	Italy	124845	141507
	Ivory Coast	---	---
	Mexico	22400	22125

Treasurer's Report

Netherlands	71306	104070
New Zealand	36020	24227
Norway	---	4425
Pakistan	---	---
Peru	6776	6487
Philippines, The	---	42270
Portugal	22373	21907
Puerto Rico	---	31098
Russia	---	---
Scotland	---	---
Slovenia	8412	
Spain	71857	75700
Sri Lanka	---	---
Sweden	21099	22478
Switzerland	19594	20542
Togo	---	---
USA	559526	552486
Uruguay	17882	9182
Venezuela	10177	---
Wales	8126	10589
Lodges attached to Adyar:		---
Israel	29679	29419
Japan	---	---
Croatia		6622
Ukraine		15543
Fellows-at-large	51703	55800
	<u>1880010</u>	<u>2386770</u>

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This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our report.

For FRASER & ROSS
Chartered Accountants

CHENNAI
Date: 20 Sep 2007

BHAVANI BALASUBRAMANIAN
Partner

As at 31-3-2006	ASSETS	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2007	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
14,178,120	Fixed Assets	1		13,891,100
	Investments: (At cost)			
	In Scheduled Banks, Financial Institutions, Public Sector Undertakings and Units with Unit Trust of India and Other Mutual Funds.			
175,874,635	(Including Legacy Deposits)			181,494,191
	Current Assets, Loans and Advances:			
7,809,111	Stocks	2	7,635,159	
1,319,954	Sundry Debtors		1,464,089	
5,571,347	Cash and Bank Balances	3	5,170,634	
1,445,788	Loans and Advances	4	1,732,923	
16,146,200				16,002,805
2,352,609	Interest Accrued and Not Due			1,493,523
208,551,564				212,881,619

Schedule Numbers 1 to 6 and Notes on Accounts form part of the Balance Sheet.

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

K.S. DASTUR
Hony. Treasurer

**THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

Year ended 31-3-2006	EXPENDITURE	Year ended 31-3-2007	
		Rs.	Rs.
	Departments: (Net Expenditure)		
201,061	Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	—	
855,764	Garden	941,784	
3,801,539	Maintenance	4,662,302	
4,858,364			5,604,086
	Charitable Work:		
959,884	Animal Welfare	1,224,777	
1,143,000	Education	1,960,000	
21,200	Welfare Grants	18,740	
230,432	Free Dispensary and Medical Aid	237,920	
61,200	School Fees and Books	81,600	
297,567	Social Welfare Work	319,402	
322,000	H.P.B. Hostel	200,000	
2,283,578	Theosophical Order of Service	83,800	
21,600	Others	21,600	
5,340,461			4,147,839
	Propagation of Theosophy:		
682,652	Adyar Library and Research Centre (Net)	861,139	
16,589	Information and Public Relations "	11,935	
126,716	Archives and Museum "	105,197	
2,960	Theosophy Science Centre "	28,398	
828,917		1,006,669	
56,642	School of the Wisdom (Gross)	112,726	
262,778	Book Gift "	253,339	
519,471	Convention & Seminars "	514,419	
838,891		880,484	
1,667,808			1,887,153
	International Offices:		
53,236	President and Vice-President	46,474	
333,605	Treasurer	392,037	
222,180	Secretary	245,763	
609,021			684,274
	Establishment:		
194,334	Headquarters	201,113	
114,543	General Manager's Office	123,929	
272,292	Housekeeping	311,400	
191,168	Sanitation	228,595	
1,712,060	Security	2,051,754	
2,484,397			2,916,791
14,960,051	c / f		15,240,143

Year ended 31-3-2006	INCOME	Year ended 31-3-2007	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
—	Departments: (Net Income)		
	Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers		30,859
	Propagation of Theosophy: (Net Income)		
1,001,813	The Theosophical Publishing House		1,179,963
38,981	The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter		-44,547
7,193	Vasanta Press		-177,666
107,752	General Donations		206,044
14,672,380	Interest Received	13,127,294	
—	Less : Reversal of previous year accrued interest	1,608,028	
14,672,380		11,519,266	
6,322,189	Less : Transferred to Various Funds	5,847,268	
8,350,191			5,671,998
2,352,609	Interest Accrued and not Due	1,495,910	
744,581	Less : Transferred to Various Funds	536,148	
1,608,028			959,762
1,880,010	Fees and Dues		2,386,770
132,000	License Fees		132,000
206,806	Miscellaneous Receipts		82,605
—	Deficit		938,447
13,332,774	c / f		11,366,235

**THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

Year ended 31-3-2006	EXPENDITURE - <i>Contd</i>	Year ended 31-3-2007	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
14,960,051	b/f		15,240,143
	Other Expenses:		
13,238	Insurance	13,758	
24,000	Legal and Court Expenses	42,126	
78,750	Audit Fees	93,979	
127,517	Rates and Taxes	457,778	
6,569	Bank Charges	1,220	
941,712	Depreciation	884,024	
35,819	Motor Car Expenses	36,543	
173,271	Miscellaneous	221,609	
90,764	Provision for Gratuity	90,203	
100,000	Provision for leave encashment	—	
1,591,640			1,841,240
16,551,691			17,081,383
	Less : Transfer from other Funds		
—	Adyar Estate Improvement Fund	291,109	
—	Security	50,000	
—	Garden	287,306	
	Charitable Work:		
959,884	Animal Welfare	1,224,777	
1,143,000	Education	1,541,220	
282,608	Social Welfare Work	295,313	
175,465	H.P.B.Hostel	200,000	
2,283,578	Theosophical Order of Service	83,800	
	Propagation of Theosophy:		
682,652	Adyar Library and Research Centre	861,139	
56,642	School of the Wisdom	112,726	
262,778	Book Gift	253,339	
519,471	Convention & Seminars	514,419	
6,366,078			5,715,148
10,185,613			11,366,235
600,000	Transferred to Education Endowment Fund		—
600,000	Transferred to Adyar Security Endowment Fund		—
11,385,613			—
1,947,161	Surplus transferred to General Fund		—
13,332,774			11,366,235

This is the Income and Expenditure Account referred to in our report of even date.

For **FRASER & ROSS**
Chartered Accountants
BHAVANI BALASUBRAMANIAN
Partner

CHENNAI

Date: 20 Sep 2007

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Notes on Accounts form part of these Accounts.

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

K.S. DASTUR
Hony. Treasurer

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-2009

(Rupees in Thousands)

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
	Budget 06-07	Actuals 06-07	Budget 08-09		Budget 06-07	Actuals 06-07	Budget 08-09
Departments (Net Expenditure)				Propagation of Theosophy			
Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	187	-31	110	Theosophical Publishing House	358	1,179	1,156
Garden	690	942	1,130	<i>The Theosophist & Adyar Newsletter</i>	120	—	—
Maintenance	4,171	4,662	5,917	Vasanta Press	51	—	—
Utilization from Other Funds		-578	-700	Interest (Net)	8,000	5,672	8,500
Charitable Work				Interest Accrued and not due(net)	—	960	1,000
Animal Welfare	2,000	1,225	1,100	Membership Fees and Dues	1,600	2,387	2,000
Education	2,500	1,960	2,000	Licence Fees	132	132	132
Welfare Grants	50	19	25	Miscellaneous Receipts	200	83	100
Free Dispensary & Medical Aid	300	238	250	General Donations	200	206	200
TOS	400	84	200	Net Deficit	—	938	434
School Fees and Books	100	82	100				
Social Welfare Work	300	319	300				
Others	30	21	30				
H.P.B. Hostel	200	200	200				
Utilization from Other Funds	-5,400	-3,345	-3,500				
Propagation of Theosophy							
Adyar Library and Research Centre	646	861	947				
<i>The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter</i>	—	45	37				
Vasanta Press	—	177	131				
School of the Wisdom	125	113	200				
Book Gift	500	253	300				
Workers' Training Camp	20	—	50				
Information and Public Relations	5	12	10				
Archives and Museum	100	105	150				
Theosophy Science Centre	50	28	50				
Convention & Seminars	—	514	—				
Utilization from Other Funds	-1,271	-1,742	-1,450				
International Offices							
President and Vice-President	50	46	60				
Treasurer	380	392	400				
Secretary	230	246	280				
Establishment							
Headquarters	225	201	240				
General Manager's Office	150	124	140				
Housekeeping	300	311	350				
Sanitation	225	229	260				
Security	1,450	2,052	2,500				
Utilization from Other Funds	—	-50	—				
Other Expenses							
Insurance Premiums	20	14	20				
Legal Expenses	40	42	40				
Audit Fees	90	94	100				
Rates and Taxes	200	458	300				
Motor Car Maintenance	60	37	40				
Miscellaneous	150	222	200				
Depreciation	1,100	884	900				
Bank Charges	5	1	5				
Provision for Gratuity	90	90	100				
Excess of Income over Exp.	193	—	—				
	10,661	11,557	13,522		10,661	11,557	13,522

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2007

Executive Committee:

1. Mrs. R. R. D. D. D.	<i>President</i>
2. Dr. John Algeo	<i>Vice-President</i>
3. Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Secretary</i>
4. Miss R. R. D. D.	<i>Treasurer</i>
5. Mr. D. K. G. G.	<i>General Council Member</i>
6. Mr. C. R. D. D.	<i>General Council Member</i>
7. Mr. S. R. D. D.	
8. Dr. C. V. A. A.	
9. Mr. S. R. D. D.	

HEADQUARTERS

**ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
INDIA**

General Manager

Adyar Library

Surgeons

Garden

Housekeeping

Information

Intellectual Chambers

Maintenance

Medical Records

Printing and Archives

Education

School of the White

Security

Unemployment Publishing House

Example Free

Mr. S. R. D. D. D.

Mr. S. R. D. D. D.

Mr. S. R. D. D. D.

Mr. S. R. D. D. D.

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Mr. S. R. D. D. D.

Mr. S. R. D. D. D.

OLCOFF EDUCATION SOCIETY

General Manager	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Adyar Library	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Surgeons	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Garden	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Housekeeping	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Information	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Intellectual Chambers	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Maintenance	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Medical Records	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Printing and Archives	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Education	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
School of the White	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Security	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Unemployment Publishing House	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.
Example Free	Mr. S. R. D. D. D.

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2007

Executive Committee:

1.	Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President</i>
2.	Dr John Algeo	<i>Vice-President</i>
3.	Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Secretary</i>
4.	Miss Keshwar Dastur	<i>Treasurer</i>
5.	Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>General Council Member</i>
6.	Mr Conrad Jamieson	<i>General Council Member</i>
7.	Mr Sriram Panchu	
8.	Dr C. V. Agarwal	
9.	Mr S. Harihara Raghavan	

General Manager		Mr S. Harihara Raghavan
Adyar Library	<i>Director</i>	Dr S. Sankaranarayanan
	<i>Librarian</i>	Prof. C. A. Shinde
Bhojanasala		Mrs Sudha Natarajan
Garden		Mr Shailandra Agrawal
Housekeeping		Mrs Radha Muthiah
Information		Mr Conrad Jamieson
Leadbeater Chambers		Mrs Uma Nilakanta
Maintenance	<i>Superintendent</i>	Mr M. Dharmalingam
Medical Service		Dr S. D. Inbaraj
Museum and Archives		Dr C. V. Agarwal
Sanitation		Mr D. V. Subramanian
School of the Wisdom	<i>Secretary</i>	Mrs Dolores Gago
Security		Mr J. Suresh
Theosophical Publishing House		Mr S. Ramu
Vasanta Press		Mr S. Harihara Raghavan

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

	<i>Chairman</i>	President, TS
	<i>Secretary</i>	Miss Sumana Kale
	<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr T. S. Jambunathan
Olcott Memorial School	<i>Headmistress</i>	Mrs Lakshmi Suryanarayana
H.P.B. Hostel		Mrs Vijaya Ravindran
Social Welfare Centre		Mrs Mythili
Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary		Dr P. D. Jagannathan

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 2007

National Societies and Sections	26	Section/Area	Number of		
			Lodges	Centres	Members
Regional Associations					
(formed under Rule 35 (c))	12	26. Indonesia	15	1	241
Presidential Agencies	10	27. Ireland	2	2	48
Total Lodges	938	28. Italy	40	11	1,103
Total Centres	174	29. Ivory Coast	3		29
Total Membership 2006	29,287	30. Mexico	14		159
Total Membership 2007	29,014	31. Netherlands	11	7	429
		32. New Zealand	13	6	982
		33. Norway	3		17
		34. Pakistan	1		89
		35. Peru	2		25
		36. Philippines	18	6	315
		37. Portugal	11	2	228
		38. Puerto Rico	3	2	70
		39. Scotland	4		117
		40. Slovenia	4		71
		41. Spain	12	3	302
		42. Sri Lanka	9	1	169
		43. Sweden	6	2	162
		44. Switzerland	2	2	41
		45. Togo	2		37
		46. USA	47	64	4,072
		47. Uruguay	5		64
		48. Venezuela	2	1	48
		49. Wales	4		81
		Total	932	174	28,434
		Lodges attached to Adyar			
		1. Sol Lodge, Guayaquil, Ecuador	1		15
		2. Covenant Lodge (Israel)	1		70
		3. Japan	1		69
		4. Singapore	1		336
		5. Ankh Lodge, Kiev	1		11
		6. Lotus Lodge, Zagreb	1		12
		5. Fellows-at-Large			67
			6		580

Section/Area	Number of		
	Lodges	Centres	Members
1. Africa, East and Central	7		229
2. Africa, South	4	4	273
3. Africa, West	13	8	245
4. America, Central	3	1	36
5. Argentina (and Paraguay)	17	11	316
	1		11
6. Asia, South-East	7	1	192
7. Australia	11		1,329
8. Austria	3		62
9. Belgium	8		97
10. Bolivia	9	1	103
11. Brazil	36	13	814
12. Canada	4	7	197
13. Chile	3		31
14. Colombia	7	2	52
15. Costa Rica	3	1	52
16. Cuba	12	2	585
17. Dominican Rep.	2	2	51
18. England	33	5	998
19. Finland	24	3	458
20. France	21	2	387
21. Germany	6	1	116
22. Greece	6		55
23. Hungary	2		32
24. Iceland	10		370
25. India	447		12,444

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

Income from book sales, subscriptions to journals and gross profit (at Rs.23,40,000/-) all increased in the year under report.

Two new editions and 30 reprints came on the market.

After many years, an Indian reprint of the classic *Isis Unveiled* was published, as well as a revised edition of *Reminiscences of Colonel Olcott*, to celebrate the centenary of his passing. Many of the reprints have attractive new covers.

Future plans include a compilation of

On the Watch-Tower articles by Mrs Radha Burnier which appeared in *The Theosophist* between 1980 and 2006.

The plans for a new bookshop in the grounds of the Olcott Memorial High School have been shelved.

A new online bookstore (<http://www.adyarbooks.com>) will soon be accessible.

Mr S. Ramu
General Manager

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

A special edition of the review *Brahmavidya* (Vol. 68-70) appeared to commemorate the centenary of Colonel Olcott's passing.

The Research Centre is fortunate in having the services of dedicated scholars and researchers from within India and abroad, serving on a voluntary basis under the Dr. S.Sankaranarayanan, its Director. At the age of 83, Srimati Parvati Gopalaratnam retired as Librarian, after about 30 years of service, and was succeeded by Professor C. A. Shinde, a retired professor of zoology and National Lecturer of the Indian Section. Other new collaborators include Dr K. N. Neelakantan Elayath and Prof. Ramakrishna Raju. The passing of Mr R.Lakshmanan after 46 years of service is regretted.

I. Works completed:

- *The Adyar Library Bulletin* 68/70
- *Traptamapaughasutra* – Krodarthavada
- *Tapas in the Bhagavadgita*
- *Vedic and Mesopotamian Interactions*
- *Spiritualscape of the Upanishad-s*

II. Works nearing completion:

- *Descriptive Catalogue of MSS. on Astronomy and Mathematics* by Dr K. V. Sharma.
- *Introduction to Chandogyopanisad* by Dr S. Sankaranarayanan.
- *Gangesa's Philosophy of God* by Dr S. J. John Vattanky

III. Reprints to be taken up:

- *Samnyasa Upanisad-s* English translation by Prof. A. A. Ramanathan (ALS.104)
- *Vaisnava Upanisad Text*
- *Sakta Upanisad-s* – Text (ALS.10)

IV. Acquisitions and Cataloguing:

During the year under report 386 books were purchased and 2,063 were accessed. 2002 books were catalogued and added to the Library collections.

We are grateful for 1677 books received from various sources as gifts. Most of them were from the President's Office, T.P.H, the Secretary's Office, T.P.H. Wheaton, the Editorial Office, Dr K. K. Raja's collection and the review section.

V. Services Rendered:

28,067 frames of photocopies were taken, including 16,447 frames of Palm Leaf MSS, 1127 frames of Paper MSS, 152 frames of Transcripts, 3,236 of rare books and 324 frames of books for the Adyar Library.

2206 readers and 948 borrowers used the Library and consulted 6,243 books and borrowed 1,535 books; 42 rare books

and 68 MSS. were consulted.

VI. Conservation and Preservation:

There is a dearth of lamination films and hence lamination work is lagging behind, but 550 books were repaired, 147 were bound and 19 were xeroxed.

VII. Computer Section:

2,500 cards were catalogued and entered and 3,500 cards were Xeroxed.

VIII. Scholars:

Ten scholars from various universities used the Library: seven from the University of Madras, two from the University of Tirupati and one from abroad.

IX. Visitors:

1226 persons visited the Library during the year.

Prof. C. A. Shinde
Librarian

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

The subject of the first term of the School, in January and February, was 'New Insights into the Yoga Sutras of Patanjali', with Dr Ravi Ravindra as Director. Dr Ravindra went into the various and subtle meanings of certain Sanskrit terms and opened new vistas. In this connection, fresh light was also thrown on the Three Objects of the Theosophical Society, which should lead us away from mere analytical study and point to the personal responsibility of the individual member.

During the first two weeks of the second term of the School — from 5 to 17 November — under the guidance of Mrs Dolores Gago — the purpose of the General Council Resolutions on Freedom of Thought and Freedom of the Society was clarified. The preparation of public lectures and publicity was studied and books conveying the principal theosophical teachings were taken up.

From 19 November to 1 December, Professor Shinde explained in detail the 'Three Great Truths', relevant diagrams

being shown by overhead projector.

From 3 to 15 December, Professor R.C.Tampi treated the theme 'Ancient Wisdom and Modern Insight', referring to books by Shirley Nicholson and Rene Weber and pointing out the relevance of modern science to spirituality.

The classes during the second term of the School were held in the Youth Lodge

building, as renovation work was going on in Blavatsky Bungalow.

Students from twelve different countries attended, including Ghana, Indonesia and Japan.

Mrs Dolores Gago
Secretary of the School of the Wisdom

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

All catalogues now exist in one database, allowing for quick access. Enquiries received were usually dealt with within a few weeks. Cataloguing is however an on-going process, new items being constantly added. Miss Elvira Carbonell has been helping with her computer skills. The air-conditioner is in urgent need of renovation.

The Archives Exhibition during

Convention was devoted to the life of Dr Annie Besant.

Convention delegates and students from the School of the Wisdom were able to visit the Museum. No new exhibits were added during the year.

Dr C. V. Agarwal
Officer-in-Charge

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Olcott Memorial High School: The School reopened in June 2007 with 641 pupils (358 boys and 283 girls), including fifty-one new admissions. Most of the children come from the seashore slum affected by the tsunami in 2004. Sixty-nine pupils sat the final examination, forty-four of them passing at the first attempt.

The children engaged in co-curricular activities, such as gardening, gymnastics, scouting etc., and took part in inter-school

competitions in drama, sport and drawing. Educational excursions were organized. An annual health check-up was conducted, more serious cases being referred to a specialist.

HPB Hostel: Seventeen pupils returned to the Hostel in June and were joined by eight new boys, making a total of twenty-four. Their day begins with prayers, followed by breakfast. When they return from school at 5 p.m., they enjoy a snack

and play games. At 6 p.m. they assemble for prayers and meditation, followed by moral stories before supper at 8 p.m. Before going to bed, they complete their homework.

Social Welfare Centre: The Nursery School reopened on 1 June 2006 with 100 children (including thirty new children), between two and five years of age. Parents leave their children there from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. They receive a nutritious vegetarian breakfast and lunch and learn alphabets and numbers in Tamil, English and Hindi and also paint and do physical exercises.

This year hygiene was emphasized. Dr R. Revathy conducted clinics for the mothers and children.

Animal Welfare Centre: Dr P. D. Jagannathan and his team cared for 11,002 animals, treating minor injuries, vaccinating them and performing 607 simple operations. Twenty-two animals underwent Animal Birth Control Operations. In-patients are fed thrice daily or when necessary, following the doctor's orders.

Miss Sumana Kale
Secretary, Olcott Education Society

THE BESANT SCOUT CAMPING CENTRE

2007 was a special year for the Scout Movement, which completed 100 years of existence and is still growing.

Twenty Scout groups, consisting of about 2,300 children, utilized the services of the Centre for their activities. They

commemorated the contribution of Dr Annie Besant to the Scouting Movement in India.

Mr A. Victor Frank
For the Besant Scouting Centre

THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

The highlight of this year's activities was the International Conference of the TOS in July at Olcott, the TS headquarters at Wheaton, Illinois, USA. Participants attended workshops and talks designed to improve their effectiveness and shared ideas for new projects. An international perspective on the TOS was sought and perceptions of avenues of work were shared with a view to fulfilling the twofold purpose defined by our international

President: reducing pain and purifying the mind and heart of the server. Fruitful personal links were formed, productive of planning for the future and inspiring concrete commitments to act at local and national levels. Progress was made towards expanding the team of volunteers supporting local workers.

A special issue of the review *For the Love of Life*, covering not only current American TOS projects but also the

history of the TOS worldwide, was distributed to participants and will be donated to TOS groups in other countries. A DVD of an inspiring lecture by Vicente Hao Chin on 'Root Causes and Symptoms' will also be distributed worldwide in the TOS Centenary year 2008.

In preparation for this occasion, a draft of International Guidelines for the TOS is being prepared and will give useful information on the origins and operational structure of the TOS.

In view of the interest attracted by the outstanding emergency relief work of the

TOS in Chennai, the TOS in India will consider applying for registration as an organization entitled to receive foreign currencies, so that members worldwide can support the projects of local groups.

The TOS acknowledges the work of Jean Gullo on her retirement after forty-one years as President of the TOS in the USA and mourns the tragic death of Dara Feroze Mirza, a pillar of TOS work in Pakistan.

Mrs Diana Dunningham-Chapotin
International Secretary, TOS

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES
LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR
FEDERATIONS

(When necessary, reports have been translated, edited or condensed)

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS

AFRICA,
EAST AND CENTRAL

REPORTS OF WORK IN NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR FEDERATIONS

(Where necessary, reports have been translated, edited or condensed)

Mrs Susan Keshubhai
General Secretary

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

The highlight of the year was the Convention at Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, with the theme 'The Quest for Truth'. The guest speaker was Mr Hrishikesh Sharan, a National Lecturer of the Indian Section, who also toured the four countries in the Section (Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia) and spoke in local Lodges.

Nairobi Lodge in Kenya and Kitwe Lodge in Zambia are the most active. Their studies were based on, for example, *The Ancient Wisdom*, *The Voice of the Silence*, *Theosophy Explained* (Parvi) and *The*

Laws of the Higher Life. Study meetings in Nairobi Lodge included a beginners' class. Kitwe Lodge organized quarterly seminars, one of them being on Colonel Olcott, and outreach programmes.

The Section bookshop at Nairobi Lodge has a rich collection of titles.

Ways to revive inactive Lodges, attract the public and increase membership are being sought.

Mr Navin P. Shah
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTH

Well attended Theosophical educational programmes and interactive panel discussions continue at Johannesburg and Pretoria Lodges, as well as study meetings on, for example, *The Voice of the Silence*, *Light on the Path* and the teachings of Krishnamurti.

Efforts are being made to revive Durban Lodge by means of extensive lecture programmes, which have evoked growing interest. Cape Town Lodge is also being supported in this way.

Eighteen members have joined the

Centre in Germiston and monthly lectures attract at least thirty people. A study course is planned. Two other centres in more isolated areas meet regularly but have limited membership.

The General Secretary visited all the Lodges frequently and kept in contact. She spoke on Theosophy on the radio and answered listeners' questions.

Mrs Susan Kaschula
General Secretary

AFRICA, WEST

Most Lodges held study meetings based on, for example, *Man and his Bodies*, *The Seven Principles of Man*, *Man, God and the Universe*, *Self-Culture*, *Light on the Path* and *At the Feet of the Master*.

The headquarters welcomed about ten enquirers weekly. Leaflets and three hundred copies of *At the Feet of the Master* were distributed free of charge. Many books were also sold.

Events such as the Annual Convention, a School of the Wisdom and weekend

seminars were arranged. The Convention theme had reference to the brotherhood of humanity. This year's School, held in Accra, was directed by Mr I.K.Zaney, the keynote being 'Principles, Laws and Agents of Creation'. Reference books included *A Study in Consciousness*, *The Kingdom of the Gods*, and the Proem of *The Secret Doctrine*. Nineteen persons attended.

Mr Paul B. Kwakyi
General Secretary

ARGENTINA and PARAGUAY

Lodges met in fifteen cities, members' and public meetings being held. Books such as *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Key to Theosophy*, *The Mahatma Letters*, *Light on the Path*, *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Science of Yoga*, *Man, God and the Universe*, *The Mental Body* etc. were studied.

The subjects of public lectures included Meditation, 'The Cause of Sorrow', 'Karma in Daily Life', 'The Path', 'Eastern Philosophies', 'Life and Death'.

Regular Summer and Autumn Schools were held at the San Rafael Centre.

Colonel Olcott's *Buddhist Catechism* and extracts from his *Old Diary Leaves*, as well as a book by Joy Mills were published. The Spanish edition of *The Theosophical Glossary* is being revised. Theosophical books in Spanish are sent to many Spanish-speaking countries.

The General Secretary visited Santiago in Chile and also Paraguay, which is now attached to the Argentinian Section and where good contacts were established.

Mrs Silvia Liliana Pastore
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

The National President spoke at the Annual Convention in January and conducted afternoon sessions concerning

the TS, its work and public speaking at the School of Theosophy held at the Springbrook Centre as well as giving

presentations in various lodges. The Education Coordinator also spoke in a number of lodges and held a well attended course on *The Voice of the Silence* at Blavatsky Lodge in Sydney.

Visitors from abroad included Dr Ravi Ravindra, whose subject in Sydney and Canonleigh was the *Yoga Sutras* of Patanjali, and Mr Vic Hao Chin, General Secretary of the TS in the Philippines, who visited some lodges and led a Self-Transformation course at the Springbrook Centre. National Lecturers Dara Tatray, Brian Perry and Dr Victor Goslin also spoke in various lodges. In all, a total of 89 talks or seminars were provided for TS Lodges and groups. A new correspondence course on meditation and a new study course on 'The Perennial Philosophy — Past and Present' were completed.

The centenary of the passing of Colonel Olcott was celebrated throughout the Section.

Bolitho House in Canyonleigh, New South Wales, was completed and a first event was held there.

The Theosophical Encyclopaedia, originally conceived by Philip S. Harris and of which he was the General Editor, has now been published.

Other interesting points include a new 'Living Theosophy' discussion group for members in Adelaide. A Vietnamese study group meets monthly at The Manor in Sydney and there is a new Theosophy-Science Group in Brisbane. Hobart Lodge formed a study and discussion group on Advaita Vedanta and other subjects.

Mrs Linda Oliveira
National President

BELGIUM

There are three Lodges in Brussels and five in the provinces.

The three Brussels Lodges are studying *The Ancient Wisdom*, *Science of Yoga* and Danielle Audoin's *Know Thyself*, as well as astrology, *The Secret Doctrine* and Krishnamurti's teachings. A weekly public lecture is also organized.

In three of the provincial Lodges, activity consists mainly in monthly or fortnightly public lectures; it has not been possible to continue study groups. The two Lodges in Antwerp hold monthly public lectures and weekly study groups on

various subjects, including working on a new Dutch translation of *The Ancient Wisdom*. One Lodge holds weekly public lectures on theosophical subjects and commentaries on *The Secret Doctrine*, with fifteen to twenty participants.

It has not yet been possible to sell the premises in Brussels. Another house has been bought, but permission for building work there is still awaited.

Dr Henriette van der Hecht
General Secretary

BRAZIL

In addition to regular meetings of Lodges and Study Centres, several national gatherings were held, including a Summer School with the keynote 'Learning to live Theosophy' (based on a book of articles by Radha Burnier), an International Theosophical School, featuring Mr Vic Hao Chin's self-transformation course, a winter seminar with talks on various aspects of evolution, reincarnation and karma, etc. The Young Theosophists held a national meeting combined with an international gathering of the Round Table, with the theme 'A World without Boundaries'.

The various regions also held gatherings, introductory courses and study groups on meditation and different religions, *The Secret Doctrine*, *Man, God and the Universe*, *Thoughts for Aspirants*, Krishnamurti's teachings etc. There were

weekly talks in some places on, for example, 'Learning to Live Theosophy', 'The Significance of Traditions', 'The First Step is the Last Step'. Public lectures dealt with subjects such as 'Eternal Values for Modern Times'.

The Video Department is increasing its activities, all TS talks and seminars being recorded and transmitted through TV channels in 49 cities.

At the Raja Centre near Sao Paulo, which is undergoing complete renovation, various events were held, for example, a retreat in memory of Colonel Olcott.

The quarterly magazine *TheoSophia* appears in 2,000 copies and is sent to members personally.

Mr Ricardo Lindemann
General Secretary

COLOMBIA

Four Lodges, including three in Bogota, met weekly, with an average attendance of five to twelve persons. Another Lodge — in Medellin — met twice weekly. A further Lodge is at present inactive, and the remaining Lodge sent no report. Subjects of study in the lodges included *The Key to Theosophy*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *Human Regeneration*, *Thought Power*, the Section magazine and subjects such as the purpose of life, the seven rays, the Maya Calendar, etc.

Eleven public lectures — on 'The Four Noble Truths', 'Mental Culture' etc. — attracted about 25 persons.

A basic course was held and a course on 'Theosophy through Slides', both attracting around thirty people. Seminars and workshops dealt with 'The Labours of Hercules' and (with Isaac Jauli) 'Living without Fear' and 'Spiritual Metamorphosis', which attracted about forty persons, as did his lectures.

Films with high theosophical value were shown and there were activities for

children in connection with the Round Table ceremonies.

Special meetings were held on the Theosophical celebration days. A 'Members' Day' included a walk in the hills, with meditation sessions, short talks, concerts, a vegetarian lunch etc.

The General Secretary visited Brazil

and the United States (to attend the TS Convention and TOS Conference). Both visits were very instructive and she was particularly impressed by the efficiency and beauty of Olcott and the spirit of fraternity which prevails there.

Mrs Julia Ballesteros
General Secretary

CUBA

Most Lodges continue their meetings and studies without difficulty. Basic and intermediate theosophical courses and study classes in *The Secret Doctrine* form part of some Lodge programmes.

Public sessions are now held every Sunday after 5 p.m. on a regular basis.

The theme of the Annual Convention (in January 2007) was 'The Occult Hierarchy, Henry Steel Olcott and the Theosophical Society'. At the celebration on 17 February, translated copies of

Olcott's Inaugural Address (as well as that of the present President) and excerpts from his last article in *The Theosophist* were distributed.

The Library has been reorganized, the catalogue being digitalized, and the opening hours have been extended so as to enable members attending meetings to make use of its facilities.

Mr Gaspar Torres
General Secretary

ENGLAND

More than 500 persons contacted the headquarters of the Section during the year, visiting in person or requesting information, particularly by e-mail. Two Lodges met at the London Headquarters, where there were also study meetings and various presentations, including those for new members. Some events at the Headquarters attracted up to about seventy persons. In addition, there were regular classes on *The Secret Doctrine* and 'Theosophy: Way to Self-Discovery' and

various short courses. An International Theosophical History weekend was held. There were also courses at Tekels Park and in other locations.

The Section has thirty-seven Lodges, the two largest with a membership of about fifty meeting nearly every week. Many of the Lodges use the study courses by Eric McGough, who provides CDs and study materials and also visits the Lodges. Three Lodges explored *The Key to Theosophy* and others followed a variety

of courses, including *Exploring the Great Beyond*. Some groups study *The Secret Doctrine*.

The Lodges are grouped in three Federations which hold study weekends or conferences every one or two years, study centring this year on meditation and on the mind. There were also monthly meetings at which study has centred around *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Divine Plan* and *The Mahatma Letters*.

The Summer School, with about eighty participants, was held in Leicester, the

keynote being 'The Healing Arts'. Michael Gomes delivered the Blavatsky Lecture on 'Colonel Olcott and the Healing Arts' before an audience of over one hundred.

A seven-year TheoVersity Course has been started. Visits were organized to museums and galleries to witness the influence of Theosophy on science, religion, philosophy and the arts. An e-newsletter has been initiated, reaching more than 1,000 persons.

Mr Colin Price
General Secretary

FINLAND

The highlight of the year was the Centenary of the Finnish Section, combined with the European Congress, on the theme 'Compassion — the Basis for Peace and Understanding'. The guests of honour were Mrs Radha Burnier and the Venerable Professor Samdhong Rinpoche. Participants hailed from nineteen European countries and seven countries outside Europe and included many General Secretaries. Six Finnish members attended the 2006 Convention at Adyar and conveyed their enthusiasm on their return. Eighty members attended the Finnish Annual Convention.

An introductory course on meditation was held at the Headquarters in Helsinki. Lodges in Helsinki and elsewhere participated in various fairs.

The Section has twenty-two Lodges and three study centres, including a Lodge and a Study Centre in Estonia. The material for study included *The Secret*

Doctrine, *The Key to Theosophy*, *The Mahatma Letters*, *The Masters and the Path*, *The Science of Yoga* and *Ancient Wisdom - Modern Insight*. Public lectures took place weekly or fortnightly in Helsinki and other towns. Study weekends were arranged in four places in the Summer in Estonia.

Good contacts are maintained with Sweden and Norway.

A jubilee book *Theosophical Society in Finland - 100 Years* was issued as well as a second edition of *Science of Yoga* and a reprint of *At the Feet of the Master*. New members receive a copy of *The Key to Theosophy*. There are theosophical libraries in eleven towns in Finland. In addition to the magazine, three letters were sent to members, each enclosing two articles for study.

Ms Marja Artamaa
General Secretary

FRANCE

The theme of the Annual Convention was 'Devotion and Perseverance on the Spiritual Path — Hommage to Colonel Olcott', which was presented in a symposium with two participants, followed by discussion. The Chairman of the European Federation, Miss Tran-thi-Kim-Dieu, gave a public lecture on 'He who is known as "The White Buddhist"'. The Lodges in the Section, meeting once a month, studied, for example, *First Principles of Theosophy*, *Thought Power*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *A Study in Consciousness*, *Man — His Origins and Evolution*, some books by French authors

and articles from the magazine *Le Lotus Bleu*.

Monthly public lectures were held in Paris and Marseille and every two months in Reims. Miss Kim-Dieu gave several seminars — on the *Bhagavadgita* and on 'Meditation and the Nature of Attention, according to Krishnamurti's Thought'.

The magazine *Le Lotus Bleu* continues to appear ten times yearly. The publishing house produced various reprints. The bookshop welcomes and informs visitors, as does the Library (weekly).

Mrs Nano Leguay
General Secretary

GERMANY

(No Report)

GREECE

(No Report)

ICELAND

Public talks and informal meetings (with refreshments, a talk, a dialogue or video and discussion) were held weekly between October and May. They were advertised in the principal newspapers and attracted forty to sixty persons. The talks were by members or by scholars, writers, artists, professors etc. but the themes were generally theosophical, e.g. 'On the Writings of H.P. Blavatsky', 'Sacred

Geometry and the Psychology of Pythagoras', 'What is inner Freedom?' Guided meditations are held on Sundays.

Lodge meetings took place weekly or monthly. In one Lodge a book was read or a topic presented and discussed. Another studied Krishnamurti's teachings.

A well attended Summer School was held outside Reykjavik, the keynote being that of the European Congress:

'Compassion, the Basis for Peace and Understanding'. There was special emphasis on dialogues and discussion.

The magazine, with 96 pages in each issue, has been appearing biannually since 1926 and has over 700 subscribers. The newsletter *Mundilfari*, containing theosophical news, is sent out three times a year.

The publishing house published translations of various books, for example: *A Reflection on the Tao Te King*, *Consciousness, Mind and Ourselves* and *Wisdom of the Tarot*.

Mr Halldor Haraldsson
General Secretary

INDIA

The 116th Indian Convention took place on 27 December 2006, during the International Convention at Adyar. At a second meeting, a symposium was held on 'How Theosophy leads to Perfection'.

At the national headquarters in Varanasi, the Centenary of the passing of our President-Founder was observed on Adyar Day, several speakers giving addresses. Workshops were held in November and January on 'Nurture Nature for Future' and heritage education and awareness (in association with INTACH (the Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage)).

Twenty-four public lectures and a workshop on *The Voice of the Silence* were organized at the Section Headquarters during the period under report. Weekly study meetings covered *The Key to Theosophy*, *Letters from the Masters of the Wisdom* and *Human Regeneration*.

Study camps were held in Varanasi in October (with Dr Radha Burnier) on *The Key to Theosophy*, attended by over one hundred participants, and in Bhowali and

Amaravati. Dr Burnier was also Chief Guest at the U.P. Annual Conference.

The theme of the 84th South Indian Conference, held at Adyar, and which attracted 130 members, was 'Lessons from the Life of Colonel Olcott'. Professor Shinde directed the Conference, which was introduced by the International President.

The General Secretary attended or was the chief guest at the Uttar Pradesh, M.P. and Rajasthan, Bengal and Kerala Federation Conferences.

The Joint General Secretary, Dr N. C. Ramanujachary, attended to property matters and addressed lodges in different areas.

The National Lecturers were Chief Guests at various Federation Conferences and conducted study classes and workshops in different regions.

The Section has recouped some losses but requirements are increasing and members are asked to donate liberally.

Mr S. Sundaram
General Secretary

INDONESIA

A new Lodge and a new Study Group have been formed. They each received fifteen books in Indonesian. Sophia Lodge already has a substantial library of about 750 volumes.

The following books have been translated by L. Michelle: *The Astral Body* and *The Etheric Double* (A.E. Powell), *Basic Theosophy* by G. Hodson, and a Manual of computer slides on Theosophical Teachings by K.V.K. Nehru (supplied to the Lodges for

presentation), as well as various articles. A website has been prepared for the Section.

The Annual Convention, attended by 150 members and some visitors, was held at Sala Lodge in Surakarta, the theme being 'Study – Meditation – Service', on which a seminar was presented. The proceedings opened with a talk on the many-sided life of Colonel Olcott.

Prof. Dr Soepangat Soemarto
General Secretary

ITALY

The General Secretary visited fifteen Lodges and Centres, holding talks and taking part in discussions.

More than sixty members participated in the seminar organized in Pescia by the Section in collaboration with the European Federation, the theme of which was 'Mind is heart and heart is mind'. This was followed by the 93rd Annual Convention at Trevi, the keynote being 'Tradition and Renewal in the work of the Italian TS: in Memory of Col. H. S. Olcott'. About ninety members attended a seminar in Jesolo Lido (Venice) on 'Theosophical Knowledge through the years: Traditions, Intuitions, Relations, Expectations.'

Italian translations of the following books have been completed: *The Astral Plane, An Introduction to the study of Yoga* (Danielle Audoin), *The Buddhist Catechism*, *The Stanzas of Dzyan*. A translation of A. P. Sinnett's *Esoteric Buddhism* is in preparation.

Readers and many bookshops are interested in Theosophical literature. Books can be ordered by e-mail. The project of 'Online Theosophical Libraries' has been initiated. More than 3000 persons visited the Section's website monthly.

Mr Antonio Girardi
General Secretary

MEXICO

Four gatherings were arranged with participants from other countries: Brazil, the Philippines, Holland and the USA (with

Nelda Samarel, who also gave lectures in Puebla and Mexico City). Thus we learned new ways of presenting Theosophy.

A series of public lectures was held on 'What is Yoga and Raja Yoga?'

Lodge studies included *Practical Occultism*, *Foundations of Esoteric Philosophy*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *Light on the Path* and *The Voice of the Silence*, courses on self-knowledge and the seven principles of man. One Lodge has a study group for beginners and another for more advanced students. Another Lodge

studied the *Yoga Sutras*.

Some Mexican members were fortunate enough to take part in the first Convention for all Centro-American countries at San Salvador.

Dr Hugo Gerardo Figueroa Salinas
Mosqueda
General Secretary

THE NETHERLANDS

The theme of the Dutch Summer School was 'Many Ways, One Path'. A one-day seminar for members was held on 'Living and Dying'. The Dutch Section and the International Theosophical Centre work well together.

Lodge studies included *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Mahatma Letters*, *The Inner Life*, *The Path of the Disciple*, *Light on the Path*, *Human Regeneration* and various books by Dr Taimni.

The national study groups are working

on *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Mahatma Letters*.

Man Visible and Invisible is being reprinted.

The Library in Amsterdam has an increasing membership. The bookshop has been renamed 'Au Bout du Monde' ('At the end of the world')! A public relations group has been started.

Mrs Wies Kuiper
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

Vic Hao Chin was guest speaker at the National Convention, dealing with various aspects of the spiritual journey, and Professor Ravi Ravindra taught at the ten-day School of Theosophy, exploring aspects of the *Yoga Sutras*.

The Regional Groups as well as programme facilitators and national

speakers have been active in providing support to weaker Lodges, helping them to become more independent. The Section promotes a balanced programme of service, meditation and study. Some Lodges need to be encouraged to hold not only public meetings but also meetings for members only.

Subjects studied and lecture titles included 'Theosophical Principles and Practice', 'Man, the Bridge between two Worlds', 'Spirituality and Art', 'Delve into Theosophical Classics', 'Karma in our Lives' and 'Karma in Families'.

Mr Warwick Keys was appointed General Secretary as from 1st January 2008.

John Vorstermans
General Secretary

THE PHILIPPINES

Six courses for members and the public are offered, including introductory courses on Theosophy and on *The Mahatma Letters*, 'Meditation and the Spiritual Life' etc. Three new manuals of theosophical courses have been released on the basis of courses at the national headquarters.

A second Federation of Lodges has been formed, the Luzon Federation, as well as two new study groups.

The Section hosted the Indo-Pacific Conference in November 2007, attended by about 160 delegates, the theme being 'Live to benefit Humanity'. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the

Philippines, who is also a TS member, was the Guest of Honour.

After more than fifteen years of preparation, *The Theosophical Encyclopedia* has been published. The publication of a collection of articles by Geoffrey Hodson is planned.

The TOS supports 329 pupils in various schools. The Golden Link School, with 251 pupils, seventy being at secondary level, has now opened a fourth year class.

Mr Vicente Haó Chin, Jr
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

The Lodges are working with enthusiasm and commitment. Some public lectures dealt with 'Jnana Yoga', 'Theosophy — Synthesis of Science, Religion and Philosophy' and 'Purgatory and Heaven in a Theosophical Perspective'. Study in the Lodges included books such as *Practical Occultism*, *Self-Culture* and *At the Feet of the Master*, texts by Radha Burnier

and Krishnamurti and subjects related to practical and basic Theosophy.

Public lectures were held monthly at the headquarters of the Section.

Fourteen members from Portugal attended the 'Theosophical Iberian Days', held near Madrid.

Dr Licio Correia
General Secretary

SPAIN

The Lodges and Study Centres were active throughout the country, mostly providing meditation sessions and yoga classes. Among the books studied were *The Secret Doctrine*, *Self-Realization*, *The Yoga Sutras*, *At the Feet of the Master*, *Light on the Path* and *The Voice of the Silence*. Subjects of study in courses and seminars included 'What is Spirituality?', 'Sources of Knowledge' and 'Mind and Consciousness'.

The Summer School on the Costa

Brava, with the keynote 'Unity and Diversity', attracted over 120 members and fifteen sympathizers. The 'Iberian Days' was another successful event.

The Section celebrated the Centenary of the death of Colonel Olcott in various ways, including the publication of his *Buddhist Catechism* in Spanish and two interesting lectures at the summer school.

Mr Jose Tarragó
General Secretary

SWEDEN

Lodge studies were based on, for example, *Self-Culture*, *Reincarnation in a new Light* (John Algeo) and *Fundamentals of the Esoteric Philosophy*, 'The Secret Doctrine and Advaita Philosophy' and 'Meditation and Dialogue'. Public lectures featured 'Introduction to Theosophy', 'Thought Power' and 'Zen Buddhism'.

Study weekends on *The Basic Ideas of Occult Wisdom* (Anna Kennedy Winner) and on *Light on the Path* attracted around twenty participants.

Public lectures in Stockholm featured different religions and one talk on mindfulness.

There was no Swedish Summer School, but fourteen persons from Sweden took part in the European Congress in Finland.

The magazine *Tidlös Visdom* (*Timeless Wisdom*) appears quarterly and is partly available on internet.

Mr Pertti Spets
General Secretary

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The trip to Tibet organized by the Section, with forty-three participants from different countries, was a wonderful and fruitful experience.

The remarkable book published by the

Theosophical Publishing House, *War and the Soul*, is transforming the lives of veterans suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and is being widely propagated, resulting in various

conferences and workshops. The Publishing House organized a 'Soldiers' Heart Conference on PTSD', with a panel of famous speakers. Similar workshops are being organized throughout the country. Many other new books were published, also in other languages, even Chinese, Estonian and Korean. The Publishing House has started several public initiatives, including a direct marketing campaign via e-mail.

The subject of the National Summer Gathering, coinciding with the Centennial of Col. Olcott's passing, was 'Foundations of Theosophy: Study, Service and Sangha'.

A Regional Conference was held on 'Taking the Quantum Leap; connecting Science and Spirituality'.

New leaflets, study guides, books, articles, lectures, classes and workshops are available online. Lectures can be had on video etc., such as, to cite only a few, 'Globalization and Spirituality', 'Healing

the Jewish-Christian Rift', 'Seven Keys in One: the Paramitas' etc.

A breakdown in computer functioning led to a crisis and new equipment may have to be purchased.

'TheosoFest', a large festival with open house at the National Centre, generated fifteen new members, with almost 900 people in attendance. Presentations included 'Loving-Kindness Meditation', 'Finding Refuge in inner stillness and Silence', 'Centennial Commemoration of the Remarkable Life of Colonel Henry S. Olcott' etc.

Programmes of study in Lodges included an Introductory Study Course by Dr John Algeo, *The Key to Theosophy*, *The Bhagavad Gita*, *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Mahatma Letters*, *Man, God and the Universe* etc.

Mrs Betty Bland
National President

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

AMERICA, CENTRAL

The three Lodges and the (somewhat isolated) small group in this area met regularly and studied, for example, *Esoteric Christianity*, *The Human Interest*, *At the Feet of the Master* and *Self-Culture*.

They celebrated the Theosophical commemorative days.

Mrs Carmen Aguilar Aguilar
Organizing Secretary

AUSTRIA

The three Lodges tried to treat topical questions within the framework of Theosophy, for example with reference to the Three Objects.

The following subjects featured in the lodge programmes: 'The Age of Aquarius', 'Yoga', 'Dangers of Gen Technology', 'Theosophy and Anthroposophy', 'How successful was

Avilokiteshvara?', 'Brotherhood in Practice', 'Questions and the Wisdom of Life'.

Books studied included: *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Bhagavadgita* and *Self-Culture*.

Mr Herbert Fuchs
Organizing Secretary

CANADA

(No report)

CHILE

There was an increase in the number of new members, most of them being young people with high ideals.

The Lodges were very active, studying, for example, *The Masters and the Path*, *Principles of Theosophical work* and *The Yoga Sutras*.

The usual courses and many workshops were held, led by local members and members from abroad,

especially Argentina and Mexico. Subjects treated included 'Education versus Ethics', 'The Symbolism of Christmas', 'The Septenary Constitution' and 'To Live without Fear'.

Geoffrey Baborka's *The Divine Plan* is being translated.

Miss Ana Gloria Bustos
Organizing Secretary

IRELAND

Belfast Lodge met weekly, the programme consisting of talks by members, discussion and study, material being taken from *Theosophy as the Masters see it*, *The Key to Theosophy*, *Light on the Path* etc. On the Centenary of Colonel Olcott's passing, an Open Day was held with a picture display and a talk by the Organizing Secretary on his life.

Limerick Lodge also met weekly to discuss various Theosophical topics from Annie Besant's works and *The Secret Doctrine*. A healing service is held once a month.

The Study Centres in Coleraine and Dublin met regularly and a new group is starting in Newry.

The International Secretary was the guest speaker at the second All-Ireland Convention, held in Dublin.

Many members find the bi-monthly study notes by the Organizing Secretary very useful.

The Irish website is now accessible.

Mrs Marie Harkness
Organizing Secretary

IVORY COAST

The year's work was again fraught with difficulties. But it was possible to maintain our most essential activities in spite of the military and political crisis.

Weekly meetings were held for three hours on Sunday mornings. Most of those attending are young and we have been studying *The Key to Theosophy*, which has helped everyone's understanding of Theosophy.

Our talks and discussions have centred chiefly on inner peace as a condition for true outer peace, which has helped us to live through the present crisis and contribute to its solution.

Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh
Organizing Secretary

NORWAY

Meetings in Haugesund and Bergen continue as usual. The Library is in storage for the time being.

At the Feet of the Master and *Human Regeneration* are now available for study in Norwegian. The Organizing Secretary sends monthly letters to all members. She

intends to go to Oslo to show a video and DVD of the Congress in Finland when they are available and to give a talk there.

Mrs Agnes Gaasemyr
Organizing Secretary

SCOTLAND

The undersigned has been elected Organizing Secretary, replacing Mr Martin Lowe.

Three of the four Lodges — in Edinburgh, Glasgow and Dundee — met weekly for talks and study during the period under report, the Lodge in

Inverness less frequently.

The European School of Theosophy was held in Edinburgh

A new website is planned.

Mr Stuart Trotter
Organizing Secretary

SLOVENIA

There are four Lodges and one Study Centre in the country. All the Lodges held weekly meetings. Study material included *The Golden Stairs, Light on the Path, The Buddhist Catechism, You, Talks on the Path of Occultism, Human Regeneration, At the Feet of the Master and Self-Culture.*

The Chairman of the European Federation held a three-day seminar on the *Paramitas* and gave public lectures in three towns. The winter school was devoted to Col. Olcott. The International Secretary was the guest speaker at the Summer School in Sonchek, giving several lectures, as also in the four Lodges. She also visited

Croatia, along with some members from Slovenia.

A joint study meeting was held in Celje. A mini-school was organized on Krishnamurti's life and teachings.

The International President visited Slovenia from 1 to 4 July and spoke in two Lodges, about fifty members attending.

A commemorative number of the magazine *Theosophical Thought* was dedicated to Colonel Olcott.

Dr Dusan Zagar
Organizing Secretary

TOGO

(No Report)

URUGUAY

The Secret Doctrine, various works by Dr Taimni and Krishnamurti and some books on alchemy were studied during the year. Texts received from the International Headquarters and the Interamerican Federation and articles translated from *The Quest* magazine also formed a basis for discussion and study,

as well as videos of, for example, talks by Krishnamurti.

Col. Olcott's death centenary was commemorated throughout the year.

Mr Isaac Jauli's visit was very welcome.

Mr Nelson Corrales
Organizing Secretary

WALES

Activities increased in Cardiff Lodge, lectures and other events being better attended. There are study groups on *The Mahatma Letters*, Sanskrit mantras etc. Members and others gave talks and workshops on a wide range of subjects. The Library and bookstall have been extended.

The members of the three new Lodges study Eric McGough's courses on Theosophy once a month. These Lodges

were visited by the English General Secretary and other members of the English Section. Some Welsh members were invited to speak at Lodges in England. An increasing number of new Welsh members now attend the English Summer School.

Ms Julie Cunningham
Organizing Secretary

PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES

ASIA, SOUTH-EAST

Most of the Lodges in the area (five in all) as well as a Study Centre are in Bangladesh. Comilla Lodge, founded in 1889, has forty-two members. Weekly meetings are held and the Library is also open once a week. Brother B. L. Battacharya from India visited the country and spoke to the public and to members, giving valuable suggestions. As a result, thirteen new members joined. The work

in the area suffered as a result of natural disasters.

The Lodges in Malaysia have had difficulties; one is dormant and another has been closed. However, two members from the area attended the School of the Wisdom in Adyar.

Dr C. V. Agarwal
Presidential Representative

BOLIVIA

The Lodges in Cochabamba, meeting on different days of the week, studied, for example, *Esoteric Christianity*, *Life after Death*, *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Mahatma Letters*. The latter two works were studied also in the Lodge in Santa Cruz, as well as *The Key to Theosophy*, Karma and Reincarnation. A youth group studied Karma.

Public lectures and monthly workshops were organized as well as

daily study meetings for sympathizers.

Several national meetings took place in Cochabamba and La Paz. Subjects included 'A Journey within oneself' and *The Voice of the Silence*.

Visits from Isaac Jauli were very useful and much appreciated.

Mrs Teresa W. de Nuñez
Presidential Representative

COSTA RICA

Study in the Lodges was based on, for example, *At the Feet of the Master*, *The Voice of the Silence*, *Isis Unveiled*, *Man, Visible and Invisible*, *The Secret of Self-Realization*, *Self-Culture* and *Human*

Regeneration, as well as subjects such as 'The Neoplatonists'.

Summer and winter schools and seminars were held. There is now a lovely Theosophical Centre near the capital,

amidst trees and with a stream of clear water, where it is hoped to hold also international theosophical gatherings.

Speakers welcomed from abroad and who gave inspiring talks included Mr Isaac

Jauli, Mrs Maria Parisen and Mrs Nelda Samarel.

Ms Maria de los Angeles Orlich Soto
Presidential Representative

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

The members of Atma Lodge in Santo Domingo completed their study of *The Key to Theosophy* and took up Joy Mills' book *From Inner to Outer Transformation*. A monthly course on Raja Yoga was held. Three public lectures by visitors from neighbouring countries were organized.

The Armonia Study Group in San Cristobal met weekly. Their study was based on *The Ocean of Theosophy* and Danielle Audoin's *On Knowing Oneself*.

The members attended all the lectures in Santo Domingo.

A summer school was held in the mountainous area of Jarabacoa, with about forty participants, half of whom were non-members. The keynote of the school was 'The Call of *The Voice of the Silence* towards a life with meaning'. Workshops in the same area are planned to take place twice a year.

Mrs Magaly Polanco
Presidential Representative

HUNGARY

The two Lodges — in Budapest and in the east of the country — celebrated the Centenary of the TS in Hungary and the visit of the International President, different members undertaking the various tasks involved.

Public lectures were held monthly, attended by twenty-five to fifty persons. Public events in the Eastern Lodge during the year included an afternoon of study on 'Cracking the Esoteric Code', as well as public lectures, also on the history of the Theosophical Society in Hungary. Articles were published on Theosophy in

local newspapers and there was a television interview. The Lodge in Budapest held monthly meetings, dealing with fundamental theosophical teachings on the human constitution, life after death, karma, brotherhood and the purpose of life.

Books translated or in the process of translation include works by Mme Blavatsky, Annie Besant, Powell and John Algeo.

Mr Thomas Martinovich
Presidential Representative

PAKISTAN

(No Report)

PERU

The two Lodges organized public talks — thirteen in all — on different days. Subjects included 'Theosophy and the Evolution of Mankind' and 'The Myth of the Unicorn'. A talk by Mr Isaac Jauli on 'Dreams and Death . . .' drew an audience of one hundred persons and his workshop on 'Living without Fear' about fifty. A course for the public attracted around twenty participants.

The subjects of study in the Lodges

were *The Genealogy of Man, Thought Forms* (Dr Besant) and a video of a course by Mr Gabriel Burgos.

Since the magazine could not appear for financial reasons, Spanish translations of 'Watchtower' articles were distributed to members.

Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar
Presidential Representative

PUERTO RICO

Lectures for the public and members were held on Sundays, including a monthly study class on *The Mahatma Letters*. Large audiences were attracted and twenty-four new members joined. A new Study Centre has been formed in addition to the existing three Lodges and two Study Centres.

Subjects of study included Buddhism, *The Ancient Wisdom* and *Man, God and the Universe*.

The working year ended with an 'open house', when information about the Society was given, books were sold and vegetarian food offered, in order to arouse the interest of the public.

A web page has been created.

Dr Eladio Polanco
Presidential Representative

SRI LANKA

Both members' and public meetings were held monthly in Colombo, the latter with guest speakers. A free lunch was provided, financed by the members.

A national function was organized to commemorate the death centennial of Colonel Olcott, with the active participation of the Ministry of Cultural

PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES

Affairs and the Buddhist Theosophical Society. A souvenir bulletin was also published.

The following books were published in Sinhala (with help from the Non-English Publications Fund): A translation of *At the Feet of the Master, The Contribution of Colonel Olcott to Buddhist Education and the Buddhist Society in Sri Lanka*, Colonel Olcott's *Buddhist*

Catechism (distributed free of charge to schoolchildren, temples etc.) and ten booklets on the contributions of the TS in Sri Lanka.

Awareness programmes were conducted for schools and TS Lodges outside the capital.

Mr S. M. Jayathilake
Presidential Representative

SWITZERLAND

Study in the lodges was based on Dr Taimni's *Bhakti Yoga*, Danielle Audoin's Course on Theosophy and the theme 'Living in a new Era', tracing present-day cyclic changes.

The course on Basic Theosophy (based principally on Dr Taimni's *Self-Culture*) continues to be very successful, attracting eighteen regular participants. Small groups study 'Realization or the practical path of spirituality', 'Esoteric Teachings in the

new Millenium' and 'Self-Mastery and Destiny'.

Several public talks were held on Saturdays with different speakers and subjects, followed by discussion.

A seminar by Mss Tran-Thi-Kim-Dieu was very successful.

The little group in German-speaking Switzerland continues its work.

Mrs Eliane Gaillard
Presidential Representative

VENEZUELA

Two Lodges and a Study Centre are active in Venezuela. Their studies included a Basic Course on Theosophy, *The Buddhist Catechism, Man and his Bodies and Self-Culture*.

Apart from the usual celebrations, the 54th anniversary of the TS in Venezuela was commemorated.

Mrs Nelly Nouell
Coordinator for Venezuela

LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

LOTUS LODGE (ZAGREB, CROATIA)

This new Lodge was chartered on 26 July 2007, the members having already studied together for several years. The nine members who live in Zagreb held weekly meetings, the main themes of their study being the evolution of man and the human being in everyday life. The centenary of Colonel Olcott's passing was celebrated. Lodge members living outside Zagreb and unable to attend most of the meetings there met for study in their own locations in three different towns. They discussed, for example, the Theosophical Society and its objects. Mme Blavatsky and her work, education, various Yogas, religions etc.

There is a group of sympathizers, five of whom are interested in joining after a period as 'candidates'.

The Chairman of the European Federation and the International Secretary both visited Zagreb, accompanied by some members from Slovenia, and gave talks and had discussions with the group.

Yama and Niyama by Mr S.S. Varma has been published in Croatian and his book *The Path of Discipleship* is also being translated. The journal *Theosophy* appeared quarterly.

Mrs Marija Durda Bozic
President

EL SOL (GUAYAQUIL, ECUADOR)

Study courses (open to the public) were held weekly on *Isis Unveiled* and *On Knowing Oneself* (Danielle Audoin) as well as an introduction to astrology. Isaac Jauli visited the Lodge and gave public talks and courses on 'The Occult Side of Don Quixote' and on 'How to confront

fear'. A new introductory course is planned, to be held in Guayaquil and also Quito, the capital city, where a study group has been formed.

Ms Cecilia Briones
President

COVENANT LODGE (ISRAEL)

A new project has been introduced, comprising, firstly, courses on fundamental principles of Theosophy and how these can be applied in daily life in

order to understand how we create our own difficulties and to deal with stress and harmful emotions and, secondly, how this understanding can be conveyed to others.

The first series of five courses attracted forty-five participants in all.

Members met weekly and studied such subjects as, for example, 'Theosophy and the Art of Living', 'The Power of Silence' and 'Service as a Spiritual Exercise'.

Two public meetings were held monthly, one in a rented hall, also with invited speakers, presenting different views on certain subjects alongside the theosophical perspective, and the other at

the lodge premises with such subjects as 'Life, Consciousness and Matter', 'The mysterious Life of our Ego' or themes from *The Secret Doctrine*. In addition, two seminars were held.

The International Secretary spent about a week in Israel, giving five talks, attended by about twenty persons.

Mr Abraham Oron
President

NIPPON LODGE (TOKYO, JAPAN)

Monthly Lodge meetings attracted attendances of about eighteen. Recent studies were based on Japanese translations of *The Key to Theosophy* and parts of *The Secret Doctrine*, particularly concerning Indian philosophy and different religions, root-races, cycles of evolution and the deeper meanings of occultism and religion.

The magazine 'The Japanese Theosophist' is published monthly and

contains extracts from Japanese translations of Theosophical literature, such as *Theosophy Simplified*, *The Secret Doctrine* and *The Theosophical Glossary*.

Mr Tachi Yamaguchi
Secretary
on behalf of
Mr Naotsugu Takahashi
President

SINGAPORE

The main means of attracting new members remains the course on Theosophy (which is combined with a meditation course). Since it was not possible to hold more than two courses in the year under report, somewhat fewer members joined than usual.

It was not possible to hold study classes for members owing to other commitments, but it is hoped to resume

such classes in the coming year. However, informal question-and-answer meetings were held.

Talks and lectures dealt with a variety of subjects, including 'The Universe: Accident or Artefact?' 'The *Yoga-Sutras*', 'Capital Punishment — a Theosophical Perspective', 'The Purpose of the Theosophical Society', 'The Choice is always ours', 'Understanding Karma'.

Matius Ali, Vice-President of the Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation, gave a talk on 'Windows in Consciousness'. Various videos were shown.

Most members have subscribed to the E-Newsletter produced by the Lodge.

Mr Chong Sanne
President

ANKH LODGE (KIEV, UKRAINE)

This new Lodge was chartered on 15 March 2007, but the members have been meeting for about eleven years as a group.

Weekly study meetings were based on books by Annie Besant, such as *What is Theosophy?*, *Thought-Power* and *In the Outer Court*, and the *Bhagavadgita*, with notes by Annie Besant and Subba Row.

Monthly meetings were more formal. The topic of study being known in advance, each of the members came prepared with some material on the subject. Thus information and ideas were shared. Topical and theosophical events were also discussed. Meetings began with

the universal prayer and ended with a meditation. Subjects taken up included 'Study, Meditation and Service', 'The Synthesis of Science, Religion and Philosophy', 'The Nature of Space and Time'.

Public lectures were delivered by some of the members. Thirty-five members from different parts of the Ukraine attended weekend meetings celebrating the foundation of the Society.

Mrs Svitlana Gavrylenko
President

FEDERATIONS

EUROPEAN FEDERATION

The highlight of the year was the European Congress in Helsinki, with the International President, Mrs Radha Burnier, and Ven. Samdhong Rimpoche as guest speakers. The keynote was 'Compassion, the Basis of Peace and Understanding'. The Vice-President was the guest speaker at the German Summer School. The International Secretary lectured in several countries in Europe.

The keynote of the annual seminar organized in Italy by the Federation and the Italian Section, attended by more than

fifty people, was 'Mind is Heart, Heart is Mind'. The Chairman conducted seminars in Paris, Brussels and Geneva and also spoke in Portugal. She conducted a four-day silent retreat at the International Theosophical Centre in Holland.

The Centenary of Colonel Olcott's passing was celebrated in many European countries.

Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Điêu
Chairman

INDO-PACIFIC FEDERATION

The Federation *Newsletter* appeared twice and was sent to all Theosophical organizations in the territory of the Federation, in addition to new information leaflets, booklets and study papers from the Australian Section, whose support is gratefully acknowledged. Information about Federation activities also appears in the website of the Section.

A booklet in Sinhala recounting Colonel Olcott's activities in Sri Lanka

was printed and distributed, as well as an *Olcott Centennial Commemoration Volume*, with contributions from notable personalities.

Lodges and members in the territory covered by the Federation contributed generous donations for the relief of earthquake victims in Yogyakarta.

Mr Pedro Oliveira
President

INTER-AMERICAN THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

The First South American Convention was held in Argentina, the keynote being 'Togetherness in working for Theosophy',

with Professor P. Krishna as guest speaker, and the First All-Central America Convention took place in San Salvador,

El Salvador, Mrs Ali Ritsema being the guest speaker.

Lecturers who visited the area from abroad, apart from those mentioned above, included Mrs Maria Parisen, Mrs Nelda Samarel, Mr Vic Hao Chin and Mr Isaac Jauli. Within the area, Ms Lily Pastore and her husband, Mr Pablo Sender and Mrs Juliana Cesano and the undersigned travelled and lectured.

Larger Sections in the area were encouraged to help the TS in smaller neighbouring countries. The Federation functions as an instrument for the

exchange of information, materials etc. The Newsletter (in English and Spanish) was distributed twice, the second issue containing an overview by the International Vice-President of worldwide celebrations of the Olcott Centenary.

Fellows-at-Large in Honduras and Panama, where there are as yet no Lodges, are very active, holding frequent meetings and spreading Theosophy.

Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind
President

PAN-AFRICAN THEOSOPHICAL FEDERATION

The African Continent continues to be unstable in many respects. Progress is made for a short time, then things collapse again, but there is hope for the future, for example in many sincere members of the Society.

The Chairman travelled to Dar-es-Salaam in Tanzania to attend the East and Central African Convention, with the keynote 'The Quest for Truth', the guest speaker being Mr H. Sharan from India.

He also visited and lectured in Durban Lodge in South Africa and travelled to Europe, attending the European Congress in Finland.

Progress is being made in the construction of the West African Section's headquarters building in Accra.

Mr Tom Davis
Chairman

DIRECTORY AND MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

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INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

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1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr Navin B. Shah	... PO Box 14804, 00800-Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya	... <i>The Theosophical Light</i>	navinmeera@hotmail.com
1909	Africa, South	... Mrs Susan Kaschula	... No.3, 'Cragwood', 10, 5th St., Parkhurst 2193, Johannesburg, Gateng	... <i>The South African Theosophist</i>	susan@kaschula.co.za
1956	Africa, West	... Mr P. B. Kwakyi	... PO Box 720, Accra, Ghana	... <i>The West African Theosophist</i>	tswestafrica@yahoo.com
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1920	Chile *	... Miss Ana Gloria Bustos	... Casilla 3603, Santiago 21	... <i>Revista Teosofica Chilena</i>	sociedadeteosofica@entelchile.net
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1987	Dominican Rep. †	... Mrs Magaly Polanco	... 1652 Sta. Agueda, C7 Les Chalets Court Aptdo. 23, San Juan, PR 00926, USA	...	polanc@prtc.net
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1954	Israel ▲	... Mr Abraham Oron	... PO Box 4014, Ramat-Gan, Israel 52140	... Or	mail@theosophia.co.il
1902	Italy	... Mr Antonio Girardi	... Via Quintino Sella, 32, C.P. 640, 36100 Vicenza	... Rivista Italiana di Teosofia	sti@teosofica.org
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1971	Japan ▲	... Mr Naotsugu Takahashi	... 4-12-11 Nakamachi, Nishi Tokyoshi, Tokyo 202 0013		
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1924	Peru †	... Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar	... Jr. Republica de Portugal 152, Breña, Lima 5	... Búsqueda	teosoficaperu@hotmail.com
1933	Philippines, The	... Mr Vicente Haó Chin, Jr.	... Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City, Manila	... The Philippine Theosophist	philtheos@gmail.com
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1889	Singapore ▲	... Mr Chong Sanne	... 540 Sims Avenue, No 03-04 Sims Avenue Centre, Singapore 387603	... Newsletter	sanne@singaporelodge.org
1992	Slovenia *	... Dr Dušan Žagar	... Kunaverjeva 1 SLO-1000 Ljubljana	... Teozofska Misel	zagardusan@yahoo.com
1921	Spain	... Mrs Clarisa Elósegui	... Arenys de Mar, n.14, 1ro - 1ra E - 08225 Terrassa - Barcelona	... Sophia	clarisaelo@menta.net
1926	Sri Lanka †	... Mr S. M. Jayatilleke	... 20/13, Race Course Road, Badulla (BD) 90000	... The Sri Lanka Theosophist	presrep2004@yahoo.com
1895	Sweden	... Mr Pertti Spets	... Henriksdalsringen 23, SE - 131 32 Nacka	... Tidlös Visdom	teosofiska.samfundet.adyar@telia.com
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1997	Togo *	... Mr M. Dam Tsowu	... BP 215, Atakpame		
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Date refers to the date of formation

* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

▲ Lodge attached to Adyar

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 Inter-American Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mrs Terezinha Kind, SHIS Q1 28 Conjunto 1, casa 29 - Lago Sul, Brasília DFF - 71.670-210, Brazil. Email: t.kind@terra.com.br
 Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mr John Vorstermans, 17 Belvedere St., Epsom, Auckland 1051, New Zealand. Email: john@theosophy.org.nz
 Pan-African Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mr Tom Davis, 22 Buffels Road, Rietondale 0084, Pretoria, South Africa. Email: thosgdavis@icon.co.za

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez, Transversal 19, No.61-32 Bogotá 2, Colombia (South America) (for 2006, 2007 and 2008)

Mr Conrad Jamieson, Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai 600 020, India (for 2006, 2007 and 2008)

Mr D. K. Govindaraj, Theosophical Society, Adyar, Chennai 600 020, India (for 2007, 2008 and 2009)

Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, F-45000 Orléans, France (for 2008, 2009 and 2010)

Miss Joy Mills, 22 Krotona Hill, Ojai, CA 93023, USA (for 2008, 2009 and 2010)

Mr Surendra Narayan, F-225A Sainek Farms, New Delhi 110 062, India (for 2008, 2009 and 2010)

Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind, SHIS QI 28 Conjunto 1, Casa 29 - Lago Sul, Brasília DFF - 71.670-210, Brazil (for 2008, 2009 and 2010)

MINUTES

of the Meeting of the General Council of the Theosophical Society
held on Tuesday, 25 December 2007, at Adyar

PRESENT

Mrs Radha Burnier	<i>President (in the chair) and proxy for East Africa, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba and Mr Gabriel Burgos Suarez</i>
Dr John Algeo	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Mexico, New Zealand, the Philippines and Miss Joy Mills</i>
Miss Keshwar Dastur	<i>Treasurer</i>
Miss Mary Anderson	<i>Secretary and proxy for South Africa, Argentina, Indonesia and Mr Surendra Narayan</i>
Mrs Linda Oliveira	<i>General Secretary, Australia</i>
Mr Colin Price	<i>General Secretary, England</i>
Miss Marja Artamaa	<i>General Secretary, Finland</i>
Mrs Nano Leguay	<i>General Secretary, France</i>
Mrs Elisabeth Schmidt	<i>General Secretary, Germany</i>
Mr S. Sundaram	<i>General Secretary, India</i>
Ms Wies Kuiper	<i>General Secretary, the Netherlands</i>
Mr Pertti Spets	<i>General Secretary, Sweden</i>
Mrs Betty Bland	<i>General Secretary, USA</i>
Mr Conrad Jamieson	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Spain</i>
Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Belgium, Italy, Portugal and Mr Curt Berg</i>
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Additional Member</i>

Present by invitation as Observers:

Dr Dusan Zagar	<i>Organizing Secretary, Slovenia</i>
Dr C. V. Agarwal	<i>Presidential Representative, South-East Asia</i>
Mr S. M. Jayathilleke	<i>Presidential Representative, Sri Lanka</i>
Ms Els Rijneker	<i>Vice-General Secretary, The Netherlands</i>
Mrs Erika Georgiadis	<i>Representing Greece</i>

The list of proxies was read out as above.

The President warmly welcomed those present. Mr Paul Zwollo, who had been an Additional Member and who had worked for some years in Adyar and was active in Europe and who had died recently, was remembered with gratitude.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meetings held at Adyar on 25 December 2006 and 1 January 2007 had been circulated. The President would sign after reading them.

2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

These were dealt with under the relevant items.

3. Confirmation of Voting

(a) *Re-election of Dr John Algeo as Vice-President for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010*

The President had nominated Dr John Algeo under Rule 11(a) of the Rules and Regulations for re-election as Vice-President of the Society for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010.

The results of the voting were as follows:

<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstained</u>	<u>Total</u>
31	-	4	35

Dr John Algeo was declared re-elected Vice-President of the Society for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010.

(b) *Re-election of Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Miss Joy Mills, Mr Surendra Narayan and Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind as Additional Members for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010*

The President had nominated Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Miss Joy Mills, Mr Surendra Narayan and Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind under Rule 2(b) of the Rules and Regulations for re-election as Additional Members of the General Council for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010.

The results of the voting were as follows:

MINUTES OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>	<u>Abstained</u>	<u>Total</u>
Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu	34	0	1	35
Miss Joy Mills	34	0	1	35
Mr Surendra Narayan	34	0	1	35
Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind	34	0	1	35

Miss Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Miss Joy Mills, Mr Surendra Narayan and Mrs Terezinha Franca Kind were declared re-elected Additional Members of the General Council for the years 2008, 2009 and 2010.

4. Report of the Non-English Publications Fund Committee

The Secretary reported that the grant, already approved, of Sinhalese Rupees 40,000/- for the reprint of 1,000 copies of the Sinhalese translation of Colonel Olcott's *Buddhist Catechism* had been paid in January 2007.

A further application had been received from the TS in Sri Lanka for the printing of 1,000 or, if approved, 3,000 copies of an enlarged edition by Colonel Olcott of his *Buddhist Catechism* (containing 381 questions and answers instead of the original 170). It was confirmed that all the copies would be for free distribution. The General Council approved that the grant be given in view of the special nature of the occasion.

5. Report of the International Finance Committee

The Secretary presented the report of the International Finance Committee for the year ended 30 September 2007. It was approved.

Since the grant of US\$3,000 to the International TOS approved by the General Council in December 2006 had not been paid due to an oversight, a grant of US\$6,000 was accorded for the year 2007-08.

6. Report by the President

The President reported that the theft of sandalwood trees had continued. It was particularly difficult to guard against this because the thieves came from several sides.

The Headquarters was in need of more workers, particularly members with a good knowledge of English. Such difficulties had arisen from time to time. An appeal would be made to General Secretaries to recommend suitable workers.

Many valuable old buildings were in need of repair and this was being attended to.

Miss Elvira Carbonell, who works in the Secretary's Office, had sent a letter to some members of the General Council on behalf of 'several of us at Adyar who feel the need to write to members of the General Council'. She states that it would be preferable if the President, due to her state of health, did not stand for

election again, and that they are in favour of the Vice-President. A reply had been written by Mr Pedro Oliveira, who felt that this was interfering with the democratic process.

The President stated that she intended to stand for re-election, as she was now in good health. Dr Dusan Zagar, who was present, when asked what he thought, declared that the President was now in good health. After some remarks by those present, members were informed that the Executive Committee had appointed Ms Keshwar Dastur and Dr C. V. Agarwal to form the Election Committee along with the Secretary, and the Committee had begun its work.

The number of members worldwide had apparently dropped somewhat, but not all figures were as yet available.

7. Appointment of Executive Committee for 2008

The following Executive Committee members were appointed for 2008:

Mrs Radha Burnier	President)
Dr John Algeo	Vice-President) (ex
Miss Keshwar Dastur	Treasurer) officio)
Miss Mary Anderson	Secretary)
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	General Council Member
Mr Conrad Jamieson	General Council Member
Mr Sriram Panchu	
Dr C. V. Agarwal	
Mr S. Harihara Raghavan	

8. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2007

The Treasurer's Report and the Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2007, which had previously been circulated, were considered and adopted. The overall financial position of the Society remains satisfactory.

9. Budget for the year ending 31 March 2009

The Budget for the year ending 31 March 2009, which had previously been circulated, was considered and adopted.

10. Auditors for the years ending 31 March 2008 and 2009

Following the decision at the December 2006 General Council meeting, estimates had been obtained which were not satisfactory and it was decided to retain Fraser and Ross, at a fee of Rs.60,000/-, which they offered for the next two to three years.

Discussion on Theosophical Work around the World

The recent problem in the Netherlands Section, involving the expulsion of two members who had created difficulties, spreading false rumours and causing harm to the Society, and who had made an appeal to the public, was discussed. The two persons concerned tended to confuse the Theosophical Society with various other bodies, such as the International Theosophical Centre and other Foundations in Holland.

The English General Secretary explained the difficulties, above all financial, which had led to the decision to sell Tekels Park. A deficit of GBP 60 thousand per annum was involved. The ideal would be to obtain an offer of GBP 6 million. A Buddhist group was interested but it was not known whether they could pay so high a price.

In reply to a question, it was stated that plans for the new bookshop in Adyar had been suspended for the present.

* * *